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PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL ESCAPES DEATH IN BEIRUT

JN250956Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 25 July--Hanna Miqbil, secretary of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists, escaped death this morning when armed men opened machinegun fire at him near his office in Beirut.

Federation sources have told the INA Beirut correspondent that some 50 bullets were fired at Miqbil from a car parked near his office in Corniche al-Mazra'ah. Miqbil was wounded slightly and was taken to the hospital.

The sources said that the General Secretariat of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists will hold an emergency meeting today to discuss the incident.

Journalist Official Comments

JN251630Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 25 July--Naji 'Allush, secretary general of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists, has accused the reactionary forces within the Palestinian revolution of attempting to assassinate the federation's secretary, Mr Hanna Miqbil, in Beirut this morning. In a statement issued today, 'Allush described the attempt as a crime to implement the decisions taken in an official meeting 2 weeks ago and aimed against a number of strugglers and against certain Palestinian political organizations. Mr 'Allush added that new chapters in this plot are likely to be revealed during the next few weeks.

'Allush said that the reactionary groups expelled Mr Miqbil, who is a struggling journalist known for his opposition to settlement and capitulation, from the Unified [Palestinian] Information Board and also took an illegal decision to expel him from the membership of Fatah.

Baghdad VOP Reports

JN252040Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] The 'Arafat-Al-Wazir reactionary command has committed a new crime against the strugglers and revolutionaries in the Palestinian arena. Armed elements belonging to this gang fired at the brother struggler Hanna Miqbil, alias Abu Tha'ir, the assistant secretary general of the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists, in Beirut today and wounded him.

Reports from the Lebanese capital say that elements belonging to the reactionary command of Yasir 'Arafat and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], driving a white Mercedes, laid an ambush for struggler Hanna Miqbil in front of his office in the Al-Jazirah building Corniche al-Mazra'ah, at 0800 today. The armed elements fired three salvos at Miqbil. He was wounded in the head and hand by three bullets and was taken immediately to the hospital. The 'Arafat elements fled.

'ARAFAT VISITS MOSCOW, CITES ISRAELI VIOLATIONS

For a Moscow TASS account of a TASS and WAFA correspondents' interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, see the Middle East & North Africa section, p F 1, of the 26 July Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

PLO DELEGATION ATTENDS BELGRADE NONALINED MEETING

JN251733Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Brother Abu al-Lutf, chief of the PLO Political Department, and the accompanying delegation arrived yesterday in Belgrade to participate in the conference of foreign ministers of the nonalined countries. The Palestinian delegation includes brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman of the PLO Executive Committee; Shafiq al-Hut; Zuhdi at-Tarazi; Nabil Ramlawi and Ibrahim al-Khatib.

ABU 'IYAD MEETS WITH KUWAITI DEFENSE MINISTER

JN251925Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Iyad, member of Fatah Central Committee, yesterday met with Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim as-Sabah. Our correspondent has learned that they discussed the current Arab situation and developments in the Palestinian question.

Later brother Abu 'Iyad made a speech on the 40-day anniversary of martyr struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, the late director of the PLO office in Kuwait, who was assassinated at the hands of Iraqi intelligence agents. Brother Abu 'Iyad stressed that the Palestinian revolution avoids intervening in the internal affairs of Arab countries. And in return the Palestinian revolution rejects any interference in its internal affairs or any tutelage from Arab countries. He added that some Arab regimes have insisted on intervening in our internal relations. These regimes have formed, financed and drawn up the line of these organizations, which have conspired against us and aimed at the destruction of the Palestinian resistance.

Abu 'Iyad added: We do not want to bring bloodshed to the arenas conspiring against us. Abu 'Iyad called on the government in Baghdad to start a dialog and suspend all activities against Palestinians and the PLO.

PLF LEADER CONDEMNS ACTS OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTISTS

JN260829Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 26 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 July--A spokesman for the Central Command of the Palestine Liberation Front has called on the Palestinian revolutionary forces and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement to unify their ranks in order to confront the liquidation campaigns started by the Palestinian rightist forces. He stressed the need to alert as many of the Palestinian and Arab masses as possible to confront the Palestinian rightist leadership.

In a statement to the Palestinian news agency, WAFA, 'Abd al-Fattah Ghanim, front Central Committee member, called on the Arab liberation movement to define frank and clear stands toward the policy of this leadership. He said that the Palestinian rightists have openly taken upon themselves implementation of the imperialist scheme aimed at liquidating the Palestinian revolutionary presence and have even taken it further by striking at the Lebanese Nationalist Movement.

Ghanim added that this offensive--despite its ferocity--has failed completely because the Palestinian and Lebanese masses have gone into the streets right from the beginning, condemning the policy of striking at the Palestinian revolution and emphasizing the need to maintain the supremacy and consecration of the democratic dialog in the Lebanese and Palestinian arena.

He stressed that the resorting to arms by the Palestinian rightists in the Palestinian arena proves the failure of their plans, something which makes it incumbent on the democratic national forces to take the initiative and rush ahead to solidify the national stand on the basis of a progressive and coherent program so as to bring about the downfall of this course and those in charge of its application.

He added that it is incumbent upon the Arab masses and the forces of the revolution factions to vigorously defend the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian revolutionary presence in Lebanon so that the Palestinian and Lebanese Nationalist cause not be tarnished by Palestinian reactionary hands.

CONFERENCE ON PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS OPENS IN AMMAN

JN2218011Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1555 GMT 22 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 22 July--The meetings of the 21st session of the conference of the supervisors of Palestinian affairs in the hosting Arab states started in Amman today.

During the session, which will last 1 week, the conferees will discuss several topics, including the conditions of Arab detainees in the jails of the Israeli occupation, the Israeli measures aimed at usurping the land and property of the expatriates, and the new trend of Zionist settlements which aim at reinforcing and bolstering the existing settlements and dispossessing land so as to expand on it, set up large settlement cities--this is known as Weizman's project--and form new organizational forms for settlement.

The conferees will also discuss marketing citrus fruits from the Gaza Strip and the demand that the union of citrus fruit producers in Gaza allow the transit and sale of such fruit in the Arab countries. Another topic of discussion will be that of the Israeli excavations at the historical and religious sites in Jerusalem with the aim of obliterating the Islamic and Arab landmarks of the holy city.

Participating in the conference are delegations representing Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and the PLO.

BAHRAINI, KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTERS LEAVE FOR BELGRADE

JN240903Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0835 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 24 July--Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister of Bahrain, and Shaykh Saban al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Manama this morning for Belgrade to attend the foreign ministers conference of nonalined states scheduled to begin its work tomorrow. The conference will last until 29 July.

They were seen off at the airport by Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and a number of Bahraini officials.

KUWAIT

MAURITANIAN ENVOY ARRIVES IN KUWAIT 24 JULY

JN240832Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0822 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 24 July--Be Ould Ne, Mauritanian minister of justice and religious affairs and envoy of Mauritanian Chairman Moustapha Ould Mohamed Salek, arrived in Kuwait late last night with a message from the Mauritanian leader to Amir of Kuwait His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad.

In a statement on his arrival, the Mauritanian envoy said that the message deals with recent events in Mauritania.

Received by Amir

LD241136Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD

[Text] This morning the amir received the Mauritanian minister of justice and his delegation. During the audience, the Mauritanian minister handed his highness a message from Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Salek, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, concerning bilateral relations. The audience was attended by the Mauritanian ambassador to Kuwait.

SAUDI ARABIA

OMANI MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR KHALID

LD251132Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1005 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] At-Ta'if--At noon today in At-Ta'if, His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Qais Zawawi, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, who handed his majesty a written letter from his brother, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, 2nd deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, and His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister.

Qais Zawawi arrived in At-Ta'if this morning and was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and a large number of officials from the Foreign Ministry.

Leaves for Abu Dhabi

LD251512Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if--Qais Zawawi, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, at 1500 today left At-Ta'if for Abu Dhabi following a visit of a few hours to the kingdom.

SAUDI ARABIA, FRANCE TO SET UP MILITARY EQUIPMENT FACTORY

LD221330Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1114 GMT 22 Jul 78 LD

[Summary] The minister of defense and aviation and chairman of the Supreme Arab Organization for Military Industries [SAOMI], Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, today attended the signing of an agreement between SAOMI and the French Thompson Company to set up the Arab company for electronic industries in Al-Kharj. SAOMI's contribution is 70 per cent while the French company has contributed the remainder. For SAOMI it was signed by Dr Ashraf Marwan and for the French company by the chairman of its board.

The company is expected to commence operation in 2 years, and it will manufacture and maintain civilian and military avionics and communications equipment. The first items produced will be aviation navigation equipment for the British Decca Company used in the production of Lynx helicopters. Staff and workers will be trained in France and Europe.

UAE

VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR PAKISTAN ON PRIVATE VISIT

JN221038Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1000 GMT 22 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] Dubai, 22 July--His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id Al Maktum, UAE vice president and ruler of Dubai, left the country this morning for Pakistan on a private visit that will last several weeks.

ERITREAN FRONT DELEGATION LEAVES ABU DHABI FOR QATAR

JN251658Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1645 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 July--The Eritrean Liberation Front delegation headed by Ahmed Naser, the front's revolutionary council chairman, and Muhammad Omar, the front's representative in Baghdad, left Abu Dhabi for Doha today following a 2-day visit to the UAE which was part of a tour of the states in the area.

During the visit, Mr Naser met with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi. They discussed the latest developments in the Eritrean arena. Naser was seen off at the airport by several Foreign Ministry officials and the Eritrean Liberation Front's representative to the UAE.

ABU DHABI DEVELOPMENT FUND SUPPORTS UGANDAN PROJECT

JN251602Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1420 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 25 July--A 25-million-dirham loan agreement was signed today in Abu Dhabi between the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund and the Ugandan Government.

The agreement was signed for the fund by Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the court of the OAU President and vice chairman of the fund's administrative council; and by Kumba Abdulhamid Masagazi, Ugandan minister of finance, planning, and economic development for the Ugandan Government.

This loan will be used to enlarge a textile mill in Uganda, increasing its productive capacity to 16 million meters yearly.

The yearly interest on this loan is 5 percent, repayable over a 14-year period with a 4-year respite. The Arab Development Fund in Africa will join the Abu Dhabi fund in financing this project.

UAE OIL PRODUCTION STATISTICS ISSUED

JN211102Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 21 July--According to official statistics recently released by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources, the overall production of crude oil in the UAE in 1977 reached 729,506,405 barrels. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi produced 602,765,317 barrels, that is 82.6 percent of overall production.

Official statistics indicate that in 1977 the UAE produced about 3.44 percent of the total world oil production. It ranked ninth among more than 30 oil-producing countries. In the Middle East, the UAE ranked fourth, after Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq. It produced about 6.7 percent of the OPEC production, thus ranking seventh of the 13 OPEC member states.

YEMEN--PDRY

IRAQI ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGES TO OFFICIALS

JN251747Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 25 July--The envoy of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command council vice chairman, this afternoon left [Aden] for Jidda carrying two oral messages to Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The messages deal with the situation in the Arabian Peninsula.

During his visit to Aden, which lasted several hours, the Iraqi envoy, 'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council member and planning minister, delivered two oral messages from President al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council, and to 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the United Political Organization-National Front.

Before his departure from Aden, envoy Husayn made a statement expressing his happiness at the positive results of his visit to Aden. He stated that the desire to achieve peace and stability in the area is an important matter. It strengthens the Arabs' unity and power to confront the imperialist and Zionist forces. This desire also strengthens their struggle for liberation and progress.

Before coming to Aden, the Iraqi envoy had visited the YAR, where he delivered two messages from President al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn.

In Aden, the Iraqi envoy delivered the messages from President al-Bakr and Saddam Husayn during two meetings he held with 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the United Political Organization-National Front, and with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister. The meeting with Isma'il was attended by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Politburo member, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister; 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Badhib, Presidential Council member and minister of culture and tourism; and 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, Presidential Council member and defense minister. During the meeting, a review was made of issues of interest to the two countries and of bilateral relations.

The meeting with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister, was attended by the minister of culture and tourism; 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, under secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and several PDRY officials.

YEMEN--YAR

PREMIER, FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVE IRAQI PLANNING MINISTER

JN2509517 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0840 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] San'a', 25 July--YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani met here last night with Iraqi Planning Minister 'Adnan Husayn and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations. Their viewpoints were in agreement on the need to keep the area free of international struggles.

Later last night, the Iraqi minister reviewed relations between the two countries and ways to bolster cooperation between them with YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj.

The Iraqi minister arrived here at noon yesterday to convey two messages to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from the Iraqi president and from Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman. The visit comes within a tour that will also include Aden and Riyadh.

FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR

NC251546Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1537 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts in Cairo today at the ambassador's request.

The U.S. ambassador later told MENA that during the 2-hour meeting, the discussions dealt with the current developments of the Middle East crisis in light of the results of the tripartite Leeds Castle meeting and the arrangements for the visit which U.S. Middle East roving ambassador Alfred Atherton is scheduled to pay Egypt from Friday to Sunday.

Eilts said that no date has as yet been fixed for U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's visit to Egypt. He said that Atherton might visit Israel again within his current Middle East tour.

KAMIL TO REPORT TO NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

NC251745Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1701 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--MENA has learned that Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil will present to the National Security Council, during its meeting on Wednesday, a complete report on the Leeds Castel meeting and its results and on the latest developments of the Middle East situation.

When an official source was asked by MENA whether U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts, during his meeting with Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today, raised the question of convening another meeting between Egypt, Israel and the United States, the sources said that this subject was not raised at all. The source added: We are waiting for U.S. Middle East roving ambassador Alfred Atherton to visit Egypt during his tour of the area. The official source said that Egypt's position on this matter is that there must be new elements in the Israeli position before thinking about holding such a meeting.

MENA has learned that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is currently studying and reassessing the situation in view of the results of the Leeds Castle conference.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK LEAVES PARIS FOR RABAT

NC251400Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1223 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Paris, 25 July--Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has stated that he is carrying two messages from President Anwar as-Sadat to King Hassan II of Morocco and Emperor Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the shah of Iran.

In a statement to the MENA correspondent prior to his departure for Rabat today, the vice president said that during his visit to Morocco, he will fully brief King Hassan II on recent developments in the Middle East issue, President as-Sadat's discussions in Vienna and Salzburg and the results of the tripartite conference among the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel and the U.S. secretary of state.

In his statement Husni Mubarak said that during his visit to Tehran he will discuss recent developments in the area, particularly the incidents in Afghanistan which led to the overthrow of the regime of President Mohammad Daud.

He added: I will also brief the shah of Iran on President as-Sadat's discussions in Austria, the Leeds Castle discussions, recent developments in the Middle East issue, Egypt's efforts to achieve a just peace in the area, and developments in the Horn of Africa and the gulf area and their connection with the developments of the Arab issue.

Husni Mubarak spoke of the attempts that are underway to convene a second session of discussions like those which were held at Leeds Castle between the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers and of Egypt's refusal to accept Begin's letter. Mubarak said: We went to Leeds Castle. The foreign minister participated in the conference, explaining in detail the Egyptian plan and the Egyptian viewpoint. He answered all the questions and queries put forth by the Israeli and U.S. sides. The Egyptian delegation also heard the Israeli viewpoint and explained that Israel had presented nothing new and had not abandoned its desire to retain the Arab territories and to disregard the Palestinian people's rights.

Therefore, we are not prepared to enter into a vicious circle of negotiations aimed solely at wasting time.

The vice president explained that Egypt is not against the principle of holding discussions. He said: We have shown our readiness through the practical stands we have adopted. The latest of these stands was seen in our going to the Leeds conference. But it is imperative for Israel to submit new ideas on the basis of which these discussions will be resumed, because we are against moving in a vacuum. Therefore, we refuse to enter into a new round until Israel moves forward and presents new elements.

The vice president announced that President as-Sadat has already announced these things clearly. He has reaffirmed this stand by refusing to accept Begin's letter.

The vice president then went on to speak of the new party, saying that he will join the party which President as-Sadat will establish. He affirmed that establishment of this party does not signify the abolition of the other parties. He said that the democratic experience will express itself in a natural way and that everybody will be free to join the new party.

RIGHTIST PARTY NOT TO MERGE WITH AS-SADAT'S PARTY

NC2509462 Doha QNA in Arabic 0907 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 July--Mustafa Kamil Murad, the leader of the Egyptian rightist party, the Liberal Socialist Party, has denied that it has been decided to merge his party with the new party which President Anwar as-Sadat intends to form. In a statement to Cairo's AL-JUMHURIYAH today, Murad stressed that his party will continue its march as an independent party and that it will hold a series of meetings to discuss the political conditions in the country.

AL-AHRAM ON NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

NC2607172 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 July--AL-AHRAM reports today that at the National Security Council, which will hold a special session in Alexandria today, President Anwar as-Sadat will raise the question of the interview which Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin granted recently to the U.S. National Broadcasting Company, NBC, in which he asked to come to Egypt to meet with President as-Sadat.

AL-AHRAM adds that the president will also deal with this question in the speech which he will deliver tomorrow at the Alexandria University celebration on the 26th anniversary of the July revolution.

The paper further says that Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil told the U.S. ambassador the day before yesterday that Egypt declined to receive the message which Menahem Begin sent to President as-Sadat primarily for two reasons:

1. Menahem Begin said that he will not return the occupied Arab territories unless he gets something in return, thus disregarding the fact that these territories belong to us and that this behavior conflicts with all international laws and conventions and is considered a blatant violation of international law.

2. After the cabinet meeting, the Israeli prime minister disclosed the contents of the message he sent to President as-Sadat. This conflicts with all diplomatic procedures.

AL-AHRAM SAYS BEGIN 'BIGGEST OBSTACLE' TO PEACE

NC260733Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "The Belgrade Conference and Israel's Isolation," the newspaper AL-AHRAM says:

The OAU summit has condemned Israel's policy, and the foreign ministers and representatives of 86 nonalined states are now meeting in Belgrade. The main topics on this agenda are the Middle East problem and a draft resolution prepared by Yugoslavia calling for Israel's total withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, the right of the Palestinians to establish their own state, and the imposition of economic sanctions against Israel if it continues to impede the peace efforts.

AL-AHRAM says such international conferences reflect a fundamental fact confronting Menahem Begin's government. This fact is Israel's complete isolation as a result of Begin's foolish policy which--in the words of former Israeli Foreign Minister Yig'al Allon--has prompted Washington to adopt Egypt's viewpoint. In addition, Israel's credibility has been greatly eroded, particularly in the United States and among the American Jewish community.

AL-AHRAM asks where Begin is taking Israel and the security of the area. All indications are that unless there is a fundamental change in Israel's position toward the peace talks and unless Begin changes his concepts and stands, he will bring Israel to a dead end. By then the people of Israel more than anyone else will realize that Begin's presence and his constant defiance of the whole world are the biggest obstacles to peace and the biggest dangers to Israel's security.

BA'TH OFFICIAL NA'IM HADDAD ADDRESSES RALLY

JN222013Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 22 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 July--A speech rally was held here this evening in solidarity with the Arab people in Egypt on the occasion of the 23 July Revolution. Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, delivered a speech on behalf of the party in which he hailed the July revolution and said that it was a prominent and important historical event in the life of the Arab nation and its progressive pan-Arab struggle. He added that the July revolution in Egypt was a turning point in the history of the Arab people's struggle. He further said that this liberation and progressive movement has caused tremendous changes in the structure of Arab reality and Arab policy as well as in the relations of the Arab nation with the world powers.

Haddad reviewed the accomplishments of the July revolution on the domestic and international levels and said it became prominent as an advocate of the policy of [word indistinct] and nonalinement, which has become a comprehensive current that is playing a pioneering role in international policy.

Haddad pointed out that rightist, reactionary and apostate forces were waiting for the opportunity to swoop down on the July revolution and strike at its march and accomplishments. The chance came in the reactionary coup of 15 May led by Anwar as-Sadat. With the 15 May coup, he added, a stage of real retreat from the aims and slogans of the July revolution as well as a weakening of its gains and accomplishments began. As-Sadat also moved under the U.S. umbrella and became completely alined with imperialist policy. [passage indistinct]

ATH-THAWRAH REITERATES IRAQ'S SUPPORT FOR CUBA

JN260838Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 July--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has hailed the 25th anniversary of the inception of the Cuban revolution under President Fidel Castro. In its editorial today, ATH-THAWRAH says that the Cuban revolution is now on the threshold of achieving tremendous gains for the friendly Cuban people.

The paper praises the Cuban revolution's support for the struggle of the Arab people against imperialism and Zionism. It also praises the Cuban revolution's stand supporting the liberation movements in the world. ATH-THAWRAH says that Iraq, under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, supports the struggle of the Latin American peoples, particularly that of the Cuban people.

The paper says that Iraq and Cuba are playing an outstanding role in the nonalined movement and in confronting all forms of aggression, occupation and foreign domination in the world. The paper alludes to the leading positions of Iraq and Cuba in confronting Zionism, imperialism, colonialism and racism. The paper also points out their effective role in creating a new, just international economic system. It says that this will contribute to strengthening the march of the relations between the two countries in various fields.

The paper adds that Iraqi-Cuban relations are forging ahead on the road of joint cooperation. The two countries signed numerous economic and cultural agreements in the service of their common interests based on respect, equality and mutual benefit.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO CASTRO

JN251000Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 July--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has sent a congratulatory cable to President Fidel Castro on the occasion of the national day of Cuba. In his cable President al-Bakr conveyed the greetings of the Iraqi people and government to the Cuban people.

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BELGRADE NONALINED CONFERENCE

JN251102Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 July--Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi left Baghdad for Belgrade this morning at the head of a delegation to participate in the conference of the foreign ministers of the nonalined countries.

Dr Hammadi noted the great importance the nonalined countries are attaching to this conference because it is being convened at a time when foreign pressures are intensifying against the nonalined movement and also when several domestic problems in various countries are emerging. This shows the need for unity among these countries to strengthen this movement and to consolidate the ranks of its members so that a unified stand can be adopted at the conference.

Dr Hammadi added that Iraq strongly supports holding the next summit conference in Cuba. Iraq will make every effort to insure the success of this conference, Dr Hammadi said. He said that Iraq will reiterate its call to hold the next conference after Cuba in Baghdad. The conference will discuss several important topics, foremost of which are the Palestinian cause, the situation in the Arab area, the struggle of the world liberation movements and the world economic system.

It should be recalled that Iraq has prepared a draft proposal dealing with the Palestinian cause and the current situation in the Arab area aimed at achieving a unified Arab stand commensurate with Iraq's firm policy of not arousing Arab differences at international conferences. Delegations representing some 100 states, including 86 states enjoying full membership and a number of states as observers and guests, will participate in the conference.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

JN211547Y Baghdad INA in English 1520 GMT 21 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 July--A delegation representing the General Union of Social and Services Workers, led by Mr. Salman 'Alwan, chairman of the union, left here today for Moscow on a 10-day visit to the Soviet Union. While there, the delegation will have talks with officials at the Soviet Trade Union of Services Workers on means of developing bilateral relations and exchange of unionist experiences between the two trade unions.

MINISTER OF LABOR RECEIVES SOVIET LABOR OFFICIAL

JN201205Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 July--Babakr Mahmud Rasul, minister of labor and social affairs, met here today with Vladimir Grigoryevitch Lomonosov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems.

During the meeting the discussion revolved around labor and social affairs relations between the two countries. The Soviet official expressed his happiness at being able to participate in the July celebrations.

OIL MINISTER MEETS WITH PRC COUNTERPART

JN231217Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 23 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 July--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and oil minister, today met with Sung Chen-ming, PRC petroleum industry minister. The discussion during this meeting dealt with oil relations between the two countries and the means of developing them, as well as the exchange of expertise and technical cadres, in the interest of both friendly countries.

INFORMATION MINISTER RECEIVES PALESTINIAN DELEGATION

JN231729Y Baghdad INA in English 1620 GMT 23 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 July--Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, minister of information, met here today with a delegation of the Palestine revolution forces, currently here to attend the July celebrations. Expressing thanks for the delegation's participation, Hammudi emphasized that this participation incarnates the militant and pan-Arab cohesion which links the Palestinian revolution with the 17th July Revolution. The delegation included representatives from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front, the Democratic Front and the Palestine Popular Struggle Front.

ENVOY LEAVES FOR YAR, PDRY, SAUDI ARABIA

JN240732Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 July--Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has received a written message from YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj. The message deals with the situation in the Arab area. The message was delivered to Dr Hammadi by YAR Ambassador to Iraq Ghalib 'Ali Jamil when they met today.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM YAR

JN201009Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 20 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 July--Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has received a written message from YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj. The message deals with the situation in the Arab area. The message was delivered to Dr Hammadi by YAR Ambassador to Iraq Ghalib 'Ali Jamil when they met today.

TRADE MINISTER RECEIVES KUWAITI OFFICIAL

JN241231Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 July--Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and minister of trade, received here today Badr 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd ar-Rahim, director of Kuwaiti foreign trade and head of the Kuwaiti side on the joint Iraqi-Kuwaiti committee for trade, customs and transportation. During the meeting a discussion was held on bilateral relations and ways to promote trade between the two countries.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES IDI AMIN MESSAGE FOR AL-BAKR

JN201001Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 20 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 20 July--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf has received a written message addressed to President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr from Ugandan President Idi Amin Dada. The message was delivered to the vice president by 'Abd al-Hamid Jmba Masakazi, Ugandan minister of planning, [name, title as received] when the two held a meeting here today. During the meeting, both sides reviewed bilateral relations and the means to strengthen them in the interests of the two friendly peoples. The Ugandan official is currently on a visit to Iraq to participate in the July celebrations.

AL-BAKR ADDRESSES FIGHTERS BACK FROM LEBANON

JN241055Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0925 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 July--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has told a group of fighters from the Tariq forces who recently returned home from Lebanon that this was not the first action undertaken by our fighters in the Arab arena and will not be the last. He added that our fighters are ideologically prepared to participate at any time or place throughout the Arab world to promote their principles, principles which represent the height of right and justice.

He stressed that the Arab nation is waging a struggle whose victory is a historical inevitability because it is a just and humane struggle. He added that the Arab nation has men who are completely able to restore their rights. They are tough in creed and struggle, he said. The president praised the high spirits and noble manners which characterized the fighters who fought beside the nationalist forces in Lebanon. Finally, the fighters offered President al-Bakr a gift of a plaque written on in blood and pledging to continue struggle until the Arab nation's objectives are achieved.

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS LEAVE AFTER CELEBRATIONS

JN201950 [Editorial report JN] Baghdad INA in Arabic from 0725 GMT to 2100 GMT on 28 July carries short, factual items reporting the departure from Baghdad of the following delegations and guests after their participation in the Iraqi July revolution celebrations:

1. The Laotion delegation led by Maha Kou Souvannamethi, minister of justice;

2. The Pakistani delegation led by Habibullah Khan, minister of industries and production.

3. Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, president of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party and former prime minister of Sri Lanka;

4. Bangladesh delegation led by (Safiy ad-Din 'Abd al-Sari), minister of trade [name, title as received];

5. Kiriakus Khristo, Politburo member of the Cypriot Progressive Party of the working people, and the delegation accompanying him;

6. The delegation of the Communist Party of Greece led by (Costas Lolas), member of the party and of the Greek Parliament;

7. The Kuwaiti delegation led by 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

KING HUSAYN, ALFRED ATHERTON HOLD TALKS

JN2511417 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this morning Alfred Atherton, roving U.S. ambassador. Mr Atherton briefed his majesty on the recent developments in the efforts for peace as well as the U.S. Government's efforts in this respect and its assessment of the region's future.

His Majesty King Husayn explained Jordan's viewpoint regarding all aspects of the Palestinian issue, the conflict in the region and ways to achieve a just peaceful solution. His majesty stressed the principles of total withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in complete freedom as a basis for a just peace and mutual security. His majesty also stressed Jordan's positive stand toward the issue of a just peace in the region together with Jordan's and other Arab parties' adherence to the comprehensive pan-Arab principles which cannot be relinquished.

The meeting was attended by Ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

AR-RA'Y COMMENTS ON ATHERTON'S VISIT

JN2606207 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Jul 78 JN

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Jordan's Firm Stand," the newspaper AR-RA'Y writes: Once again Alfred Atherton hears in Amman specific talk and clear ideas that constitute a basis for a just peace and reciprocal security. This basis is founded on two essential principles, namely, total Israeli withdrawal and the Palestinian's right to self-determination.

Once again Atherton hears King Husayn's affirmation of Jordan's adherence to its firm stand and refusal to surrender the comprehensive pan-Arab principles. He is joined in this stand by the other Arab sides.

Any U.S., Israeli or Arab calculations for the future which deviate from the two principles of total withdrawal and the Palestinians' right to self-determination will not succeed because they will ignore two basic elements which constitute the heart of the problem. These two elements are the land and its legitimate owners. Our struggle with Israel is the result of its occupation of the land and the displacement of its owners. Without restoration of the land and the return of the Palestinians to their territories and homes, the struggle will continue to exist and all efforts and trips undertaken by Atherton and others will be of no avail, will achieve nothing.

What King Husayn told Atherton means two things: No concession of territories and no relinquishment of the Palestinians' rights. This clear Jordanian stand, which is shared by the other Arab parties, requires a unified Arab stand based on an intrinsic power that is capable of achieving the pan-Arab principles and safeguarding the territories as well as the Palestinian people's rights. This power requires first of all the removal of differences and the quick return of Arab solidarity before the nation is shaken by a new catastrophe that cannot be confronted by the absence of unity and intrinsic power.

INA REPORTS RENEWED CLASHES IN BEIRUT, AL-HADATH

JN2515402 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 25 July--Exchange of heavy weapon and machinegun fire resumed in Beirut this afternoon between the rightist militias and the deterrent forces after a relatively quiet day in which only sniper fire was reported. Sounds of big explosions were heard at 1700 today in the Al-Hadath area of southeastern Beirut, which has been the scene of violent clashes for the past 4 days.. The INA correspondent in Beirut reported that fighting intensified around 1800 Beirut time. Sounds of explosions were heard in different quarters of Beirut.

Patriarch Khuraysh contacted President Sarkis by telephone and asked him to intervene to stop the fighting.

Preliminary reports on the results of the violent shelling between the Arab Deterrent Forces and the rightist militias indicate scores of victims. The Phalangist radio kept interrupting its program to broadcast reports on the shelling, besides carrying the news of the fighting in its regular newscasts.

ARAB DETERRENT FORCES SOURCE ON AL-HADATH INCIDENTS

NC2520312 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Asked about the security situation in Al-Hadath area, an Arab Deterrent Forces command official source has stated the following:

The situation was calm in Beirut and its suburbs today and no incident took place until 1650 when six mortar rounds were fired. Three of these rounds fell on the Arab Deterrent Forces stationed at the start of Camille Sham'un Boulevard. The rounds came from the direction of Al-Hadath. The three other rounds fell on Al-Hamra Street in Al-Hadath, wounding two civilians and one soldier. As a result of this, fire was opened from several positions in Al-Hadath on the Arab Deterrent Forces, which did not return the fire.

The official source in the Arab Deterrent Forces command added that the firing then intensified and expanded and was aimed at more positions of the Arab Deterrent Forces, which did not return the fire until 1925. When these forces sustained more than one casualty, they were compelled to open fire at specific targets--positions of heavy machineguns and antitank guns. The Arab Deterrent Forces ceased firing at 2000.

The official source concluded by saying that the gunmen were continuing intermittent fire up to the time this report was being broadcast.

FIRE IN WOODS AROUND U.S. AMBASSADOR'S HOUSE

NC2519332 Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1923 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] We have just received the following report: A large fire has broken out in the woods around the house of the U.S. ambassador and the Republican Palace. The fire fighting units have not been able to arrive at the scene of the fire because of the intense and concentrated Syrian shelling around the area.

CASUALTIES MOUNT IN AL-HADATH SHELLING

NC2606l6Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[Text] The artillery and rocket shelling of Al-Hadath township and its neighboring areas continued until early this morning. The shelling stopped at 0300. Fires are still burning in the forests and some houses and hospitals. Preliminary information indicates that about 30 children, men and women have been killed and that more than 50 persons have been wounded. There has been considerable damage to the establishments and houses. More than 1,500 artillery and rocket shells fell on Al-Hadath and the surrounding neighborhood last night.

BEIRUT RADIO: RELATIVE CALM RESTORED IN AL-HADATH

NC2606l7Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Clashes in the Al-Hadath area ceased early today following intensive contacts with the parties concerned. These contacts resulted in relative calm after a night of violent clashes during which a number of persons were killed and wounded.

KUWAITI PAPER: USSR THREATENED U.S. OVER LEBANON

NC2609l0Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 26 July--Quoting reliable diplomatic sources, the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH reports today that the Soviet leadership had threatened the U.S. administration that it would intervene directly to support Syria if the United States did not drop its plans to convene the Security Council to discuss the Syrian military presence in Lebanon. The paper says that Moscow conveyed this message to Washington via a red line telephone contact at a time when the fighting in Beirut was intensifying, Israeli aircraft were overflying the Lebanese capital and the likelihood of a confrontation between Syria and Israel was growing. The paper says that Moscow threatened a military landing operation if the Israeli provocation against Syria did not stop.

These sources told the paper that the United States then dropped the idea of convening the Security Council and exerted pressure on Israel to prevent it from provoking Syria because it believed that Moscow was serious in its threat, which could have turned the eastern front into an area of direct international confrontation.

KUWAITI MINISTER ON SYRIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON

NC2509l7Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 25 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 25 July--'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, the Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, has expressed his surprise at the reports that the United States has warned Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. In a statement published in Kuwait today, the minister says that the Arab Deterrent Forces are present in Lebanon in accordance with a resolution issued by the Arab League and with the approval of the legitimate Lebanese authority and that there is nothing which calls for the intervention of any quarter in this matter. Legally, these are Arab Deterrent Forces and not Syrian forces, he adds.

The Kuwaiti minister of state stresses that it would be possible to withdraw the deterrent forces if Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis expresses such a desire.

NEW RADIO STATION STARTS EXPERIMENTAL TRANSMISSIONS

JN251120Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 25 July--A new radio station called the "Voice of One Lebanon" [Sawt Lubnan al-Wahid] has started its experimental transmissions from Zgharta, the stronghold of former President Sulayman Franjiyah.

The new station will be Lebanon's fifth. In addition to the official radio station, there is the Voice of Palestine, Al-Murabitun radio and the Phalangists radio.

A 104-meter antenna has been erected in Ihdin summer resort, where Franjiyah's son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter were killed by armed Phalangists.

FATAH MEMBERS KILL PALESTINIAN GUNMAN IN BEIRUT

NC260729Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 26 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Fear spread in some quarters of western Beirut following the attempt which was made yesterday on the life of Hanna Muqbil, one of the Fatah leaders, near the Arab University in Beirut. Muqbil was wounded in this incident.

It was reported this morning that an armed group of Fatah members has killed Mustafa Shankar, who was the leader of some gunmen in Muhammad al-Hut Street in Ra's an-Nabi' area. It has been reported that Shankar was killed following yesterday's clashes between his gunmen and Fatah gunmen. Shankar belonged to the Arab union organization.

MOSCOW SAID PRESSING BEIRUT TO SEND TROOPS SOUTH

TA251133Y Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Kuwait, 25 July (AFP)--The Soviet Union has warned the Lebanese Government it will block renewal of the mandate for the United Nations peace force in south Lebanon in September if the Lebanese Army fails to take up positions to reestablish legal authority there, the AL-ANBA' newspaper reported here today.

The newspaper quoted East European diplomatic sources as saying Moscow did not consider the conservative Christian militia capable of maintaining security in the region which borders Israel.

NATIONALISTS REPORTEDLY AGAINST ARMY ENTERING S. LEBANON

JN241400Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1328 GMT 24 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 24 July--The joint command of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance in southern Lebanon held an emergency meeting in Sidon today during which it discussed the political and security developments in the area.

The command was informed of the latest reports on the situation in the border area and the violence used by the rightist-Zionist alliance against citizens there.

Citing Lebanese Nationalist Movement sources in the south, the INA correspondent says that the movement is opposed to the entry of the military remnants of the Lebanese Front into the south. It also rejects all pressure being exerted for this purpose. The movement demands that army officers collaborating with the enemy must be dimissed and tried for high treason.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE MAKES VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

For reportage on the visit which began on 22 July by President of the Council of the Revolution Houari Boumediene to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including a TANJUG report on the communique issued at the end of the visit see the Yugoslavia section of the 25 July Eastern Europe DIALY REPORT.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI MEETS PRESIDENTS OF SEYCHELLES, DJIBOUTI

LD250134Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary of the General People's Congress, and Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles, held a meeting tonight at the People's Palace in Tripoli. Bilateral relations and certain African issues were discussed at his meeting.

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the presidents of the Republics of Seychelles and Djibouti held a closed session at the People's Palace. Relations between the Jamahriyah and the two states; African and current international issues were discussed.

Libyan-Seychelles Communique

LD260626Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2038 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] A joint communique was issued today in Tripoli following the 3-day visit by President Albert Rene of the Seychelles Republic to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Here is the text:

At the invitation of brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and secretary general of the People's General Congress, Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles, leading a high-powered delegation, paid an official visit to Libya during the period of 22 to 24 July 1978. At the airport, the guest was welcomed by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, member of the Secretariat General of the People's General Congress and commander in chief of the armed forces. President Albert Rene was given a warm welcome which expressed the strong bond of friendship that link Libya and Seychelles peoples and the two friendly countries.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, received President Rene. They held lengthy talks in the course of which the two leaders reviewed bilateral relations between the two countries and the African, Arab and international political situations in an atmosphere of fraternity and friendship.

In the sphere of bilateral relations, expressing their desire to strengthen cooperation between their countries, the two leaders reaffirmed the expansion of their relations in all fields, particularly in the economic, technical, social and cultural spheres, so that it will be an example to be followed in the Arab-African relations, and to gather the efforts of both peoples in order to realize liberation from all forms of foreign and imperialist domination.

In the African field, the two sides declare their total support for the struggle of the African liberation movements in Namibia, Zimbabwe and southern Africa, reaffirming the continuation of the material support and political backing to all the African peoples struggling for liberation and self-determination against colonialism and racism. They reaffirm that the effective means for the explusion of the colonialists from the continent is the armed struggle which expresses the African peoples' will for liberation.

The two sides strongly condemn the cooperation between the two racist regimes in South Africa and occupied Palestine and consider this cooperation as being directed against the human values and the right of man to his freedom. They consider the support which the racist regimes receive from the colonialist states as being an act of hostility against mankind and the people's absolute right to control their own destinies and determine their own fate.

The two sides reaffirm their commitment to make every effort to support the African peoples which are striving to liberate themselves from direct and indirect colonialist domination. and reaffirm the right of the people of the Reunion Island to self-determination. The two sides strongly denounce the use of mercenaries, the means of colonialism and reaction. for the subjugation of peoples and the establishment of domination over them. The two sides denounce the imperialist attempts for the creation of military alliances and blocs between the imperialist countries and the countries of the African Continent, a matter which threatens the security and peace of the African peoples and leads to the division of the continent.

The two sides call on the African states not to enter such military blocs in accordance with the principles of nonalinement. The two sides strongly denounce the imperialist interference in the affairs of the African Continent which aim at the internationalization of African differences and problems so that the latter may serve as an opening for the imperialist states and a pretext for their interference and for a return to the defunct colonialist eras. The two sides believe in the African people's capability and the OAU to find the correct solutions for their problems. The two sides reaffirm their belief in the right and capability of the African peoples to forge an alliance among themselves in order to resist the attempts that aim at dividing them, and call on the progressive forces to create a single front to resist the attempts of the foreign forces to interfere in Africa.

In this connection, the delegation of Seychelles praised the steps taken by Libya, the Sudan and Niger to make successful the reconciliation between the brothers in Chad, which reaction and colonialism are trying to prevent from being successful.

In the Arab field, the two sides call for Arab-African cohesion and unity, and reaffirm the importance of the joint role being played by the Arab-African group for international progress in the field of economy in order to liberate the world economy from imperialist domination and monoplies. The joint cooperation between these two groups is of benefit to the peoples of the third world, in general; through historic and geographical relations, the two African and Arab groups will be able to play an effective and influential role at the international level in various fields.

In the course of their study of the fate of the Palestinian question as a result of the arrogance of the racist Zionists, the two sides reaffirmed their intention and resolve to strengthen and support the Palestinian people in order to enable them to recover their land and all their usurped rights by way of escalating the legitimate struggle being waged by this people, which is being supported by the African people and the peoples of the Third World and all the anti-imperialist and antiracist forces. In this connection, the two sides condemn every initiative that aims at keeping the Palestinian people away from administering their own issue as no one has the right to act on behalf of the Palestinians.

In the international field, the two sides reaffirm their commitment to the UN Charter and principles, and are of the opinion that it is necessary to amend the UN Charter in order to realize justice and equality among the states, small and big, and to demand the abolition of the veto. They also call for the need to find a new international economic order that recognizes the right of the countries of the Third World to participate on the basis of justice and equality.

During these talks, brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi spoke about the principles of the Great 1 September Revolution and the achievements it had accomplished on both the internal and external levels, represented in the establishment of the people's authority which was realized through the people's congresses and committees in accordance to the 1st volume of the Green Book. These achievements were also manifested in the need to resolve the economic problems, in accordance with the second volume of the book; this was manifested in achivements which covered all fields and in the victories which the Libyan Arab people scored against monopolies. He also stressed the continuation of the Libyan people's call for unity of the Arab homeland and of the African peoples and peoples of the Third World, and also for confronting foreign interference and alliances, and the continuation of support for the peoples which are struggling for freedom.

The Seychelles president, Albert Rene, expressed confidence that Libya enjoyed respect and admiration by all peace and justice loving peoples and all progressive governments in the world, due to its revolutionary sincerity and its commitment without any hesitation to standing up to all attempts that aim at harming the peoples' struggle for progress.

The Seychelles president informed the brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of the success made by the people of Seychelles in the march of political, economic and social change, which was witnessed by the country after the liberation revolution led by the Seychelles United Party; he also explained to him the efforts being exerted so as to establish social justice and progress. He also stressed the commitment of the people of Seychelles to solidarity of African unity and to consolidating Arab-African solidarity.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 Septmember Revolution and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the Jamhiriyah, expressed admiration for the progress made by the Seychelles Republic in the fields of social, economic and cultural development for the prosperity of the people of Seychelle; also for the efforts being exerted by the Seychelle Republic so as to put an end to all imperialist bases in the Indian Ocean, and to work for the establishment of an area of security and peace.

At the end of the visit, President France Albert Rene, the Seychelle president, expressed profound thanks to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and to the Libyan Arab people for the warm and fraternal welcome accorded to him and his delegation. President Rene addressed an official invitation to brother Col al-Qadhdhafi to visit the republic of Seychelle. The invitation has been accepted with thanks, its date to be fixed later.

Issued in Tripoli on 24 July 1978.

Libyan-Djibouti Communique

LD260234Y Tripoli JANA in English 1550 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 25 July, JANA--A Libyan Arab-Djibouti joint communique was issued today. Following is its text:

At the invitation of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, Mr Hassan Gouled, president of the Republic of Djibouti, paid on official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from 22 to 25 July 1978 A.D.

A meeting took place between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the secretary-general of the General People's Congress, and President Gouled of Djibouti where the most important international issues and the consolidation and development of brotherly relations between the two countries for the benefit of their people were discussed.

During this visit President Gouled and his accompanying delegation were received very warmly, which expressed the feeling of brotherhood which linked the peoples of the two countries.

The guest placed a wreath on the monument to the martyrs of Al-Hani battle and was acquainted with the achievements of the 1 September Revolution in the political, economic, social, and ideological fields and the experiment of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in putting authority in the hands of the people.

The president expressed his great appreciation of what the Jamahiriyah had achieved in those fields and praised the leading role played by the Jamahiriyah to achieve unity of the Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The official bilateral talks were held in an atmosphere of fraternity and cordiality.

The talks covered the most important international issues and the ways of promoting bilateral relations.

Both sides discussed the volatile situation in the Arab area as it posed a grave threat to the Arab nation and hindered the establishment of international peace and security.

They pledged their full support for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and repatriation.

They strongly condemned the conspiracies and the incessant Zionist incursions calculated to liquidate the Palestinian resistance and to enable the Zionist enemy to annex further Arab territories.

Both sides exchanged views on the situation in Africa and denounced vehemently the ferocious imperialist attacks against Africa and the foreign intervention in its domestic affairs.

In this respect they expressed their full confidence in the ability of the African people to counteract such attacks and to resolve their own domestic problems without recourse to any foreign country.

Both sides affirmed that they would firmly and unflinchingly stand against the imperialist forces which endeavoured to impose their hegemony on Africa.

They also pledge their full support for the African peoples and liberation movements in their struggle against imperialism and racism in all its forms.

Both sides denounced the connivance between the racist regime in occupied Palestine and South Africa which was designed to undermine the struggle of the Arab and African peoples.

They also affirmed their strict adherence to the resolution passed by the U.N. General Assembly during its 30th session which branded Zionism as a form of racism.

Both sides pledged their full adherence to the principles of non-alignment as they were of paramount importance as regards the world conflict.

Both sides stressed the need for a new international economic order to be established on the basis of equity and justice, enabling Third World countries to control their own natural resources.

They also expressed their respect for the objectives and principles of the U.N. Charter, urging the organization to play a more effective role in abolishing imperialism and racial discrimination.

Both sides reviewed the ways and means of promoting relations between Djibouti and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In this respect they signed two agreements in the cultural, economic and technical fields.

President Gouled of Djibouti expressed his deep appreciation to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September Revolution, for the superb hospitality extended to him during his stay in the Jamahiriyah.

President Gouled extended an invitation to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to visit Djibouti.

The invitation was gratefully accepted.

OFFICIAL ADDRESSES TURKISH PRESS DELEGATION IN TRIPOLI

TA251658Y Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] The Libyan foreign relations secretary general, Ahmad sha-Shahhati, has said that the Third World countries attach great importance to Turkey's friendship before the great threats facing them. Sha-Shahhati was speaking at a meeting organized for the Turkish press union delegation which is currently in Libya. He pointed out that Libya wanted the Mediterranean turned into a lake of peace.

Our correspondent Erdogan Gungordu reports from Tripoli that, addressing the meeting, Ankara Senator Ugur Alacakaptan recalled that Turkey was the first country to fight imperialism. He said: Today, Turkey is supporting the Third World countries in their struggle.

Speaking at the meeting, constitutional expert Professor Mumtaz Sosyal recalled that Turkey was situated among rich and poor countries. He said that Turkey shared Libya's views regarding the principles of independence and freedom.

MOROCCO

PRIME MINISTER OSMAN INTERVIEWED ON KHARTOUM SUMMIT

LD260028Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmed Osman granted an interview to French radio in which he commented on the positive results achieved by Morocco at the debates at the Khartoum summit conference in connection with the Sahara issue.

At the beginning of the interview, the prime minister said he was honored to represent His Majesty King Hassan II at the OAU 15th summit.

Prime Minister Ahmed Osman observed that the discussions at the conference lacked seriousness which is characteristic of all meetings at the level of heads of states and governments; this applied to the discussion of the Sahara issue and other items on the agenda.

The prime minister said that the Sahara issue, which was not even discussed at the foreign ministers conference, was placed on the agenda of the summit. Having referred to the circumstances which prevented the convening of the extraordinary conference on the Sahara, the prime minister observed that it was difficult to avoid sharp discussions. Morocco succeeded in putting forward its viewpoint that the problem is basically political. It is an issue of good-neighbor relations and coexistence among the states of the region, the prime minister said. This being the case, it is possible to search for political solutions; hence the idea of setting up an arbitrators committee which will meet in the near future.

The prime minister referred to some African countries' attempts, which are connected with Algerian policy, to impose recognition of the so-called POLISARIO, and to the rejection of these attempts by the conference and the conference's approval of the idea tabled by Mali on the need to keep the problem within its African framework and within the OAU.

Regarding Col Houari Boumediene's attempts to put the issue before the United Nations, Mr Ahmed Osman stressed that the OAU was still capable of discussing such problems. This, he added, did not prevent the United Nations from discussing it, but only in case it became clear that the OAU was not capable of tackling it.

Regarding the coordination of stands between Morocco and Mauritania at the Khartoum summit, the prime minister said he was very pleased with the spirit of cooperation and harmony which took place between the Moroccan and Mauritanian delegations in Khartoum, there were working sessions; meetings took place and viewpoints were exchanged between the delegations of the two countries.

Regarding Morocco's readiness to open a direct dialog with Algeria, Mr Ahmed Osman explained that Morocco had more than once expressed good will toward conducting that dialog. He added Morocco always preferred the policy of negotiations and dialog in any action that concerns its territorial integrity. It was in this way that Morocco was able to complete its unity which had been torn apart by colonialism. The prime minister gave as examples: Tangier, the northern region, Tarfaya and Ifni, which the UN resolutions always linked with the Sahara. Morocco, thanks to this policy, was able to regain the Saharan provinces through the Madrid agreement between Morocco, Spain and Mauritania.

CASABLANCA PAPER COMMENTS ON MAURITANIAN EVENTS

LD241523 [Editorial report LD] Casablanca LE MATIN in French 13 July 1978 carries on page 1 a 700-word Ahmed Alaoui editorial on the Mauritanian coup. It stresses that the first official statement by the new head of state "has confirmed what all observers have noted up till now: The new rulers remain loyal to Mauritania's foreign commitments and in particular its alliance with Morocco." "The same observers have noted from many indications that this is a purely internal affair," it continues. LE MATIN points out that, in contrast to most African coups, the new leaders do not claim to be inspired by any particular ideology and have "immediately given a guarantee of national unity" by including all elements of the population in the government, both civilian and military.

Casablanca LE MATIN 15 July 1978 carries a 1,400-word editorial on the same issue on pages 1 and 3. After emphasizing that Morocco too "remains loyal to the alliance with Mauritania and cooperation with this brother country," the article refers to the POLISARIO decision to suspend its operations in Mauritania which it sees as part of "diversionary and divisive maneuvers" on the part of "Algiers' mercenaries" aimed at "masking the collapse of their hopes and the extent of their failure" in Mauritania. It calls the POLISARIO fighters "rebels" and claims that "what they want is to call into question not only the Saharan settlement but the Moroccan and Mauritanian institutions.... They have found support in Algiers which is all the more unconditional since the Algerian leaders themselves are pursuing designs which they dare not confess but which are transparent. For them it is a question of upsetting the established order so as to dominate the region and install their hegemony there." The Saharan conflict is merely a pretext for an "ideological operation" of the Shaba type, LE MATIN argues. The article concludes:

"The operations carried out side by side by the forces of the two countries [Morocco and Mauritania] are aimed at achieving peace, while remaining vigilant and mobilized so as to foil more effectively the traps set by the enemy, for whom all methods are valid. But it is not for our aggressors to dictate their terms. It is for us to do so, and to end the fighting we demand only one thing: that Algeria and its mercenaries cease their attacks, for we Moroccans and Mauritanians are defending our rights, our sovereignty, our institutions and our borders. In such circumstance peace can only be indivisible and unconditional."

KHATTABI: POLISARIO FRONT 'A DUMMY' OF ALGERIA

LD252056Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Paris Arab language paper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA DUWALI has published an interview with Moroccan Information Minister Mohamed Larbi Khattabi. The interview dealt with the recent coup in Mauritania, the tension in the area and future peace prospects.

Regarding the coup in Mauritania, the minister stressed that there had been no change in Moroccan-Mauritanian relations; this is a fact which had been asserted by the new Nouakchott leaders. The minister added: We consider that what has happened in Mauritania is an internal issue in which we have no right at all to interfere. Regarding the Moroccan delegation which went to Mauritania on the eve of the coup, the information minister observed that Morocco was the first to be taken aback by the coup.

He referred to the statements made by Lt Col Mustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, in which he stated that no one had any knowledge of what was being planned; he also referred to a similar statement made by His Majesty King Hassan II to Paris MATCH. Regarding the personality of the new Mauritanian leader, Mr Khattabi said that the new leader had good relations with Morocco, especially as he twice took part in meetings of the Moroccan-Mauritanian Higher Council of Joint Defense within the framework of military consultation and coordination.

Asked his opinion regarding the decision by the mercenaries about what they termed as a cease-fire in Mauritania, the minister said that such a declaration must come from Algeria because it is the one which has the say in the matter; the Polisario is nothing but a dummy in the hands of Algeria, which it can stop any time it likes.

The minister observed that he regarded the matter as a maneuver to gain time, bearing in mind that we welcome any step which seeks to restore peace, security and assurance to the region of the Arab Maghreb.

Regarding the search for a peaceful settlement to the Sahara dispute, Mr Khattabi stressed that Morocco sought nothing but peace; but it was Algeria which began the crisis and persisted in it. However, despite all this Morocco insisted on asserting its peaceful desires when it welcomed all Arab mediation attempts. Today Morocco again stresses its anxiety to find a peaceful solution to the dispute.

Asked if Morocco has any specific demands regarding the achievement of a peaceful settlement, the minister replied: We do not demand anything; but it must be known that it is impossible for there to be any retreat with regard to the Moroccan territorial integrity. All must know that the existing problem is a dispute imposed on us by Algeria.

Replying to a question about those who are saying that the dispute about the Sahara is a dispute about phosphates, the minister said: This is a side issue. The main issue is the armed conflict waged by Algeria. We are prepared to give phosphates to Algeria and furthermore, Morocco is prepared to cooperate in fields wider than that of phosphates, within the framework of building the Arab Maghreb economic unity.

Asked about the Libyan role, the information minister said: I do not understand this role at all. All that we know is that now Libya is playing a role other than what it ought to be playing. It is a vague role, the role of one who does not wish to see peace return to the region. The minister observed that in stating this he was relying on statements made by the Libyan officials and on information in hand to the effect that Libya is supplying the POLISARIO Front with the greater part of its arms.

Regarding the presence of the Moroccan Army in Mauritania, Mr Khattabi said: This army is in Mauritania in accordance with the provisions of the joint defense agreement between the two countries; it was sent there at the request of Mauritania. The matter now concerns only Mauritania.

On the improvement in Algerian-French relations, Mr Khattabi said: Morocco welcomes this. He added: Anyway, this does not concern us at all.

SUDAN

ENTRY OF 4,000 ERITREAN REFUGEES ANNOUNCED

JN251546Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 25 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 25 July--It was officially announced here today that 4,000 Eritrean refugees entered the Sudan through the Kassala region east of Sudan during the past 2 days as a result of the fighting being waged between the Eritrean revolution forces and those of the Ethiopian military regime.

Sudanese officials here expect the arrival of more Eritrean refugees as a result of the aggressive operations launched by the Ethiopian occupation forces against the unarmed civilian Eritrean population.

WESTERN SAHARA

AOSARIO COMMUNIQUE ALLEGES ALGERIAN-LIBYAN PLOT

LD250945Y Casablanca LE MATIN in French 12 Jul 78 p 3 LD

[MAP report: "Mohamed Lamine Ould Abdelahi Joins the Ranks of the AOSARIO"]

[Text] Paris, 10 July--The "Association of Native Inhabitants of Sahara" (AOSARIO) published a press communique in Paris Monday morning whose text can be found below:

After serving as liaison officer between the POLISARIO and the Algerian and Libyan embassies in Europe, our brother Mohamed Lamine Ould Abdelahi, a native of Laayoune, has joined the ranks of the AOSARIO. He did this after having repeatedly witnessed self-seeking maneuvers by the Algerians contrary to our people's real interests. Mohamed Lamine was known under an assumed name--"Abou Chems."

The person concerned, who since 1975 has held a responsible position as a high Algerian official, has shown the AOSARIO receipts relating to subsidies obtained by Algiers on behalf of the Saharan people and unethically used to finance Algerian associations in Europe and trips by officials from that country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Liberation Front to international conferences.

In addition, some other relevant papers received by us from him show that Libya has been financing certain small leftist groups in France, the FRG, Switzerland and Belgium. In exchange, these small groups have to spread POLISARIO propaganda in conjunction with Algerian semiofficial organizations on the one hand and spread "Al-Qadhdhafist and An-Nasirist" ideas among Arab and African immigrants in Europe on the other.

Furthermore, he disclosed the existence of a plan for an uprising conceived in and controlled from Algiers and Tripoli and concerning Tuaregs in Niger and Mali. The aim of this plan is to recruit elements open to bribery for subversive activities among the Niger and Malian colonies. The information thus received has made it possible to pinpoint the framework within which Algeria, with Libya's financial help, has hatched a plot aimed at destabilizing that region and establishing in the countries concerned regimes favorable to their views.

10 July, 1978.

Signed by Ahmed Ould Rachid on behalf of the AOSARIO.

DETAILS ON EGYPTIAN REJECTION OF BEGIN'S MESSAGE

TA251721Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Egypt notified Israel via the United States that it rejects the prime minister's message. Thus, in addition to the public announcements, Cairo has formally rejected Israel's proposal to conduct negotiations on mutual gestures. Political correspondent Yosi La'or adds details:

Hermann Eilts was summoned to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry this morning and was told of Egypt's reaction to Menahem Begin's message. The reaction was passed by Eilts to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv and Ambassador Samuel Lewis communicated it verbally to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. The Egyptian announcement rejects Israel's proposal to conduct negotiations on mutual gestures. The Egyptians also noted with displeasure that the Israeli message was publicized before it was handed to President as-Sadat. The verbal message was formulated in general terms and its words were not as sharp or extreme as those of the public announcements. The Egyptian message was defined in Jerusalem as vague and not sufficiently clear.

CAIRO RADIO RESUMES WAR THREATS AGAINST ISRAEL

TA260732Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 26 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Cairo radio resumed its war threats last night. The radio's commentator said that if the peace efforts fail Egypt will choose war, and Israel, according to him, has already learned what this means and what its results can be. Our monitor reports that this is the first time in several months that Cairo radio has adopted the line of threats of war.

In his commentary yesterday the Cairo radio commentator repreated his attacks on Prime Minister Menahem Begin and also advised the Egyptian people not to have any illusions that the Arab demands will be complied with in case the Labor Party returns to power in Israel. Nevertheless, he said that the positions of the opposition in Israel may be starting points for positive peace negotiations.

EGYPT REPORTEDLY VIOLATES DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

TA251951Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] The United States informed both Israel and Egypt that according to aerial photographs taken last month Egypt has significantly violated the disengagement agreement in the Sinai. Military correspondent 'Amiram Nir learned this from reliable U.S. sources in Israel. These sources said that in routine aerial photographic flights, which take place once every 2 weeks over the disengagement zone in the Sinai, 15 motorized infantry battalions were discovered instead of the 8 battalions the Egyptians are permitted to maintain according to the disengagement agreement. Our correspondent says that the U.S. report confirms Israel's claim about this violation made a few months ago. Nevertheless, Israel is avoiding submitting a complaint to the UN supervisory staff about the Egyptian violation.

DAYAN EXPLAINS ISRAELI POLITICAL APPROACH

TA251652Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] In connection with finding meeting points between the Israeli and Egyptian plans, the government can make new proposals.

These proposals are different from the answers given to the U.S. questions by the government about a month ago. This is how Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan explained today the change in Israel's positions. Our political correspondent reports:

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan explained to the chiefs of the departments in the Foreign Ministry today the three-clause document adopted by the government on Sunday and transmitted by the foreign minister himself to the Knesset. First, Dayan said, this formula is different from the answer we gave the United States about a month ago. The reason for this, according to Dayan, is the meeting points between the Israeli and Egyptian approaches as clarified in Leeds Castle.

About a month ago the government did not agree to reach a conclusion on the issue of sovereignty. This time, in clause No 3, Israel says this issue will be discussed after 5 years if the autonomy plan is accepted. In other words, a solution to the question of sovereignty will be found if the question is raised by either of the parties. To this question, the foreign minister says, there are various possible solutions and it is needless to think only of the two extreme solutions. This is, in short, what he said about the question of sovereignty.

The foreign minister said that in clause No 2 Israel clarified that it will be ready to discuss a territorial compromise if--and this is emphasized--there is a concrete proposal on the matter. Dayan says that a concrete proposal does not mean slight amendments.

As for the first clause--the foreign minister listed the reasons for Israel's refusal to agree to a comprehensive withdrawal accompanied by minor modifications and to extending Arab sovereignty. First, the defense reason. Israel needs a certain minimum of territory even when defense arrangements exist. As for the basic reason, the foreign minister said that we do not want to be considered foreigners in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip since this means the removal of the settlements and the need for visas for a visit to the territories. As for the third practical reason for the rejection of an overall withdrawal and the imposition of Arab sovereignty, according to the foreign minister: this is the need to lead a normal life, to have freedom of movement and to have access to sources of water.

MAFDAL DISCUSSES BEGIN POLICY CHANGE

TA2512307 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Jul 78 p 1 TA

[By Avner Tavori]

[Text] Why did the prime minister suddenly agree to discuss the issue of sovereignty over Judaea and Samaria while a few weeks ago he strongly opposed this?

MK David Glass of the MAFDAL had an answer to this yesterday. At a meeting of his faction at the Knesset Glass said that at the last cabinet meeting he had learned that Begin had said: "All along I supported the necessity to discuss the issue of sovereignty but were I to have said this 5 weeks ago a cabinet crisis would have been caused. I was sick then and I would not have had the strength to face this."

The MAFDAL ministers who participated at yesterday's faction meeting did not deny this.

During the discussion criticism was leveled against the advertisement published yesterday by the joint MAFDAL-Likud reaction team which attacked the Alinement. The advertisement was called "political foolishness." The minister of the interior said that he was not happy with the advertisement and that it deserved condemnation. However, "the Mafdal should direct its policy along the lines of the Likud, for the alternative was the holding of new elections and this is something that we do not want."

Meanwhile, it has been learned that the Alinement is preparing a strong attack on the prime minister when it submits its no-confidence motion to the Knesset on Wednesday. Abba Eban will deliver the speech on behalf of the Alinement and it has been said that this "will not be a vegetarian speech."

COALITION ELEMENTS ASSESS CHANGE IN CABINET POLICY

TA251239Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Jul 78 p 2 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Text] Among the coalition parties there is a dispute about the significance of the change in the government's position as manifest in Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's remarks to the Knesset yesterday.

Yesterday, Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin told the DAVAR correspondent that he personally welcomes Dayan's position in the talks with the Americans and as revealed with the approval of the government. Yadin said that even though this position is not identical with the views of the DMC it is a big advance both in the willingness to discuss a territorial compromise if one is proposed by the other side and in the willingness to discuss the permanent status of the territories at the end of 5 years. In fact, Yadin said, Dayan has moved closer to the formula proposed by the DMC in the cabinet on this issue several weeks ago.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman also welcomed the change in the government position along the lines of his formula expressed a few weeks ago. When Weizman asked Begin about the meaning of the change in his position, Begin answered that a few weeks ago he was sick and the government was weak and for that reason it was impossible to approve this formula.

On the other hand, certain elements in the Likud criticized the change in the government's position. They claim that Dayan has maneuvered Begin into the most dangerous position of partial settlements and concessions without peace.

The Labor Party believes that there has not been any real change of the government's position but that it is only a cosmetic change because any flexibility, as it were, depends on Arab acceptance of the autonomy plan.

DAVAR COMMENTARY: POLICY MORE FLEXIBLE NOW

TA250841Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Jul 78 p 9 TA

[Dani'el Bloch commentary]

[Text] The Israeli Government does not lack information advisers but it has no informational savoire faire. A fairly flexible political line was decided upon at Sunday's cabinet meeting, at least in the tactical sphere, but according to the manner in which the cabinet decision was formulated and according to the manner in which it was presented in public by Prime Minister Menahem Begin one cannot but give it a negative and inflexible interpretation.

The main substantive decision at the cabinet meeting was a willingness to discuss a partial settlement or a settlement in stages with As-Sadat, the first part of which being an Israeli willingness to hand over the region of Al-'Arish and Santa Katerina to an Egyptian civilian administration, but on a reciprocal basis. That is to say, in exchange for these two regions Israel should gain some Egyptian concession, whether with respect to the Israeli settlements in the Rafah approaches or with respect to the Sinai airfields or any other concession of equal value. Israel also wishes to insure that these concessions be regarded as part of the peace process, otherwise in the event that the negotiations break down, we will be stuck with an Egyptian civilian administration.

As has been said, such an approach to the issue of Al-'Arish and Santa Katerina could serve as an important informational lever in proving the government's flexible and reasonable approach. However, in the announcement made at the end of the cabinet meeting it was stated that the cabinet had rejected As-Sadat's proposal of an Israeli gesture in Al-'Arish and Mount Sinai and that in international relations there is no giving without taking. Upon leaving his office the prime minister spoke to television cameramen in the manner of a lecturer in international law--a manner which, according to reliable people, only gives the Egyptian president a shudder. So, even before Cairo had studied Begin's message to As-Sadat, which in itself was formulated in a friendly and positive manner, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamil was already able to reject the cabinet decision based on Begin's remarks to the media.

The cabinet's position, as consolidated at its meeting the day before yesterday, shows a far-reaching change and it is as yet difficult to assess whether this is a tactical or strategic change.

Without many ministers having noticed this Moshe Dayan managed to maneuver the cabinet toward a line of partial settlements, or, if you like, settlements in stages. In one of his characteristically changeable moods Dayan returned from the Leeds Castle conference in an optimistic mood and declared that Egypt sincerely sought peace and that there was room for change in Israel's position in the negotiating process. Although Dayan brought Begin the box of chocolates that he expected from Leeds Castle--Foreign Minister Kamil's report that Egypt does not agree to a territorial compromise in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip--Dayan brought an impression similar to that of Shim'on Peres and 'Ezer Weizmann about the sincerity of the Egyptian leadership's intentions.

Of course, Kamil's reply to Dayan about an unwillingness to agree to a territorial compromise was a replica of the prime minister's expected dramatic appearances, but it is clear to all that it was impossible to get a different answer to the question as it was posed to Kamil. It is clear that Egypt cannot declaratively discuss a territorial compromise. The maximum from its point of view is the U.S. formula of minor border changes and As-Sadat has said this in public, and privately he has even spoken about border changes without adding the term "minor."

At this stage one cannot ask him to make more concessions than the Americans. The question involves the possibility of reaching a reasonable settlement with him, from the point of view of Israel's real security needs, in practical negotiations either for a comprehensive settlement or for partial settlements.

Moshe Dayan, knowing that at this stage there is no possibility of bridging, within a short time, the major gap between Begin's and As-Sadat's positions, is now seeking paths and formulas for partial settlements, aimed at showing Egypt that it is worth its while to continue with the peace process and aimed at preventing Egypt from being unwillingly dragged into the military opposition.

In fact, Begin and Dayan have adopted the concept of Yizhaq Rabin and Henry Kissinger as manifest in the 1975 interim settlements. However, as a result of mistakes made since November, the practical result of this is a drawing closer to the concept of stages, not along the lines of 1975 but of the Brookings Institute plan which is a less comfortable concept for Israel.

Had Begin and Dayan not profited from the historic chance that came their way in bringing As-Sadat to Jerusalem they would have had to understand from the outset that according to their fundamental approach there is no possibility of achieving a comprehensive settlement with Egypt within a short time but only to continue along the same path begun by Rabin--the path which, at the time, they so strongly opposed and are now quietly adopting. However, the difference between the Rabin period and the present one lies in there now being a real chance for a comprehensive settlement with Egypt and it is only a gap in the positions and a lack of flexibility, mainly on the Israeli side, that prevent a thorough examination of this. When the interim settlement in Sinai was reached Egypt did not accept Israel's view of the nature of peace nor did it then accept the concept, which is quite convenient for Israel, of a security arrangement including elements of a long-term Israeli military presence in territories over which the Arabs will be given sovereignty by Israel. The cabinet's new concept would, therefore, have been more suitable for 1971 when the father of the political and military blunder refused to fight for his position; it was suitable for 1975 when Dayan, in opposition to the Labor Party center's decision voted against the interim agreement out of personal caprice, but it is less suitable today as far as Sinai is concerned.

In the opinion of the Americans, and according to impressions gained by various elements, it is possible today to reach a peace agreement with Egypt on the basis of the Israeli plan with respect to Sinai, on the basis of a declaration of principles the formula of which would be a mixture of the Vienna declaration, Resolution 242 and the Aswan formula and on the basis of a 5-year interim settlement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which would be a combination of the autonomy idea with a functional settlement between Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and an elected representation of the inhabitants of the territories. Discussing interim settlements in Sinai would be a waste of precious time and would miss the possibility of reaching a comprehensive settlement, simply because of the fear that such a settlement would, at the end of the interim period, lead to Israel's having to concede sovereignty over most of the West Bank.

At the same time, if partial settlements in Sinai will prevent the danger of war they are preferable to deadlock and breakdown. Israel has a very strong interest in preventing a return to the situation that existed prior to As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. There are signs pointing to the fact that Syria wishes to cause a conflagration along the borders which would drag As-Sadat into a war against Israel. Therefore, it is necessary to lock As-Sadat into a settlement that will serve as a prestige settlement and that will prevent the possibility of his joining in a war initiated by others. As-Sadat also has an interest in stabilizing the situation in the Middle East in order to check Soviet infiltration. It would be a pity if this meeting of Israeli, Egyptian, American, Jordanian and Saudi Arabian interests leads only to a shaky partial settlement and not to a comprehensive settlement. Therefore, a prior agreement on the principles of a settlement and progress toward its implementation in stages is preferable to partial settlements removed from any comprehensive plan and which only serve as a relatively short-term tranquilizer.

WEIZMAN DISCUSSES AS-SADAT TALKS, LEBANON

TA2512519Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman today briefed the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. He talked on two subjects: southern Lebanon and his trip to Salzburg to meet with President as-Sadat. Knesset correspondent Zevi Lidar reports on the committee's session: [begin recording]

Today 'Ezer Weizman paid a debt to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee after having refused last Sunday to tell the members of the committee about his talks with President as-Sadat. He did that today, and in a calm mood. A large part of the report concerned the atmosphere of the talks. Weizman described in very colorful terms the meeting, its easy atmosphere and the embraces and kisses exchanged between himself and the Egyptian president when they first saw each other after many long months.

It appears that during the talk, As-Sadat was very open and, in addition to presenting his position with respect to the negotiations with Israel, he talked with the defense minister on other issues as well, and also about various Arab leaders.

During Weizman's report on the political content of the talk, MK Shim'on Peres from time to time intervened and confirmed that indeed he, too, heard similar words from Egypt's president.

At the end of the briefing, MK Yig'al Allon said things that apparently reflected the opinion of the majority of the committee members. We have, Allon said, a picture of Moshe Dayan returning from Leeds Castle with the impression that Egypt wants peace; Shim'on Peres returns from Vienna with a similar impression, and--thus we hear--'Ezer Weizman also thinks so. The problem is that As-Sadat wants peace on his own terms, and the question we are facing is what now, how should we react?

The question remained unanswered but the impression of some members of the committee was that if contacts were held at the highest level--that is, between Begin and As-Sadat--there may be a chance to move the negotiations forward and they would become much easier.

The committee also dealt with the situation in Lebanon. It transpired that the defense minister was very pleased with the results of the Litani operation. The southern Lebanon area is very quiet and there are no signs of expected violations there. Moreover, in Weizman's evaluation, as a result of the operation, the Syrians have grown to respect the IDF and Israel and this perhaps contributes to the stabilization of the situation in the area.

During the discussion on the situation in northern Lebanon and in Beirut, the majority of the committee members expressed their opinion that the cabinet should do more to present the severity of the Syrian military action against the Christians. The committee members were unanimous with respect to the need to act to achieve an independent Lebanon.

MK Amnon Rubinstein was in favor of an act aiming for the partition of Lebanon.

MK Moshe Shamir said that the world could not stand ethnic minorities and what is taking place in Lebanon should serve as a lesson for us. He demanded that in reaction to the activity by Syria in Lebanon the cabinet impose Israeli law on the Golan Heights.

MK Yosef Tamir called on the cabinet to arouse the free Western world against the Christian massacre in Lebanon. In his opinion, what is taking place there is a part of a global communist strategy directed mainly against Israel.

MK Yig'al Allon said that the cabinet should be more active in disclosing the problem to protect itself against any possible development.

'Ezer Weizman was more careful. In his opinion, Israel must not get involved in a situation that might cause a confrontation in the north. He also said that in his estimation the Syrians, too, want quiet in the area and want to take their forces out of Lebanon. Syria has 30,000 soldiers in the area and there are signs of dissatisfaction among their commanders over the slackening of discipline and the decline of the capability of the soldiers, who are not training. Syria would have returned its soldiers home, Weizman said, but shame over not having been able to restore order in Lebanon is preventing it from doing so. So much for this issue. [end recording]

PERES OUTLINES COMPROMISE THAT WILL LEAD TO PEACE

TA250646Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] There is a difference between Israel's and Egypt's opening positions at the beginning of the negotiations and what can be reached at the end of the negotiations, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres thinks. Peres says that, according to his evaluation based on the information he has and the talks he had with President as-Sadat--which cannot be disclosed--it is possible to reach a compromise. Last night, MK Peres outlined that compromise before Labor Party members at upper Nazareth. [begin recording]

[Peres] That Jerusalem will remain united, that is beyond any doubt. It is true that the Arabs will demand to put a flag there and perhaps ultimately also Vatican-like rights. Serious, not, cosmetic-like, border alterations in Judaea and Samaria, with an IDF presence in important places in Judaea and Samaria. The defense of the country will begin at the Jordan River. At the same time--[it means] giving up control over parts of Judaea and Samaria, uniting them with Jordan and the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian state. I would like to say that if it is not Jordan, the alternative is not Israel, it is the PLO. That can be achieved if we are prepared to do what this cabinet is either not prepared to do or is incapable of doing: to agree to the principle of withdrawal from parts of Judaea and Samaria which are entirely populated by Arabs--and the same for Gaza--to incorporate Jordan in the government. Then there would be room for talk about peace, with Israeli embassies in Cairo and Amman, with an El Al route from Ben-Gurion to Cairo, with open borders, with commercial and economic relations, with massive U.S. support, with massive European support, with the development of the region. [end recording]

Correspondent Haviva Roger brought the excerpt from MK Peres' words.

PERES: ARABS NO LONGER DEMAND JERUSALEM PARTITION

TA251745Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Mr Peres today appeared before the district council of the Labor Party in Jerusalem and, among other things, revealed some details on the talks he had had with Arab leaders. Correspondent Zevi Lidar brings excerpts from Mr Peres' speech. [begin recording]

MK Shim'on Peres had something new to reveal today: In his talk with one of the Arab leaders--and he refrained from saying which Arab leader--it became clear that the Arabs are no longer appealing against the unity of Jerusalem.

[Peres] For the first time in my talks with Arab leaders I was told explicitly: We are no longer appealing against the unity of Jerusalem. We do not favor its partition. The Arabs do have demands regarding Jerusalem. The Arabs demand that an Arab flag fly in the holy places, the Arabs demand an Arab quarter or an Arab quarter municipality under the general municipality of Jerusalem, and these demands are not surprising to me. But, contrary to the publicly held positions, the partition of the city is no longer referred to. [end recording]

PLO REPORTEDLY TRYING TO MEET OPPOSITION MEMBERS

TA260609Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Reliable sources in the Labor Party have confirmed that the PLO is trying, via a third party, to form contacts and bring about a joint meeting but that the Labor Party has rejected and will continue to reject any such attempt. The coordinator of MAPAM's Arab department, (Latif Dori), said he has not learned of any contacts with PLO members in Europe and that MAPAM's representatives have not met with PLO members over the past year.

The clarifications have been made in reaction to a report published in the French paper LE MATIN according to which the PLO recently initiated contacts with leftists in Israel. The paper reports that official representatives of the Labor Party in Europe refused to meet with PLO members but that in contrast there had been contacts on the part of MAPAM's members.

MINISTERS, MK'S ON HOROWITZ DECISION NOT TO RESIGN

TA251201Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] The intention of the legislator's decision that a minister's resignation becomes effective 48 hours after the letter of resignation is submitted, must have been so that during that time, hopefully, clarifications and approaches to solve the crisis, through the retraction of the resignation, will be made. Indeed, since this morning clarifications and talks have been held with Minister Yig'al Horowitz and before noon, when he was satisfied with the promise that the budget will be cut--as he had wanted--he took back his resignation. Our correspondent on economic affairs, Gid'on Zellinger, reports from our Knesset studio:

The Begin-Horowitz meeting took 1 and 1/2 hours. One and 1/2 hours of sorting things out. Today, when he entered the prime minister's office, he still thought he would resign. The promise Begin made to him changed his mind: I will see to it that the budget that will come from the Knesset Finance Committee will be cut. [begin recording]

[Horowitz] First of all, I am pleased that my demand has been accepted. Beyond the personal satisfaction, I think an important step has been made to stop inflation and that from now on--the matter has not come to an end--it is necessary to work extremely hard to improve the economy. I take credit, of course, and I thank my colleagues from the Knesset Finance Committee, for having shared my opinion that it is necessary to make cuts, not to funnel money [into the economy] and not to make unnecessary deficits and to make a supreme effort to improve the economy. [end recording]

[Zellinger] What has changed? Yesterday, too, it seemed that the compromise proposal according to which the Knesset Finance Committee will decide where to make the cuts had been acceptable to all. Horowitz demanded that the prime minister make a commitment and he got it this morning. Then the members of the committee were urgently called: Chairman Lorincz and the chairman of the Likud faction on the committee, MK Yig'al Kohen-Orgad. The budget will be transferred to them and they will deal with it.

We heard from the chairman of the committee on the chain of events. [begin recording]

[Lorincz] The initiative came from the Knesset Finance Committee. In this case we took the initiative. We approached the central figure--Minister Yig'al Horowitz--last night and we told him that in any case we had intended--especially after his initiative--to make a cut in the budget of 3 billion Israeli pounds. Then we approached Minister Ehrlich and asked for his opinion. He immediately blessed us and said that in fact he will be very glad--even though we does not see how--but if the Finance Committee takes it upon itself, he welcomes it. Following our talk with Ministers Horowitz and Ehrlich, we approached the prime minister and he also blessed us--on one condition: that it would not harm the lower income strata, which we promised. [end recording]

[Zellinger] Horowitz says that it will be necessary to work hard to improve the economy. The cut has economic implications as well, not only considerations of prestige, which have left the two ministers--at least in their opinion--in their [previous] positions. MK Kohen-Orgad talks about the economic aspects of the decision. [begin recording]

[Kohen-Orgad] The meaning of this decision is that the Knesset Finance Committee--with the blessing of the cabinet and with the blessing of the prime minister--see the impossibility of continuing with a situation in which the budget in fact reflects events, things that happen, and instead they regard the budget as a tool for policy which should decrease, or stop, inflation, stop negative processes, deal with problems that have a negative influence on the balance of payments. Of course, this is the challenge that we have taken upon ourselves--not a technical challenge, but a challenge of leading the economy in a different direction from the one we feared would be continued with the trend of an uncut budget. [end recording]

[Zellinger] One should point out that the budget that will be presented at the Knesset is Ehrlich's budget: 28 billion pounds. It is the Knesset Finance Committee that is to make the cuts. In that sense, there is a certain blow to the committee's independence and sovereignty in making decisions. However, Lorincz says, it is improbable that the committee will come out against the cabinet.

Finance Minister Simha Ehrlich--the man who, his associates say, was the only one who rightly predicted all the moves--he, too, gives his blessing. [begin recording]

[Ehrlich] First of all I congratulate my colleague Yig'al Horowitz on having taken back his resignation. I am very happy that wisdom overcame, because there was no justification for the drastic move he took yesterday. I warned him.

As for the issue of the cut--what was concluded at the prime minister's office was done with my knowledge and was acceptable to me even before the industry minister resigned, and I agreed to it even before. I never objected to further cuts--not only to 3 billion, I am prepared to cut even 5 billion, I only said that I have exhausted all the possibilities of making cuts. If they point out additional cuts--naturally, with the cabinet's consent--[words indistinct]. [end recording]

[Zellinger] We do not know if this crisis has contributed much to the cabinet in terms of its unity or its image. We asked Minister Yig'al Horowitz to sum up the affair of the resignation that did not take place. [begin recording]

[Horowitz] I have waged a war--a national war, it seems to me--an economic war. But beyond that, I think the step was right. It is, indeed, a small step, and still not the determining one for stopping inflation--I hope we will make supreme efforts to improve the economy.

[Zellinger] How do you regard the nature of your future relations and the joint decision by yourself and the finance minister?

[Horowitz] I think the economic ministers will be involved in the economic considerations, especially concerning the long-range steps. I believe there will be coordination and the finance minister, I hope and believe, will coordinate the activity of the ministries; this is his job and he must do it. I hope he will do it and I am convinced there will be full cooperation among all the economic ministers on economic affairs, and among all the cabinet's ministers for solving the general questions.

[Ehrlich] I have been hearing from experienced people that never has there been such close cooperation between the finance minister and the industry and commerce minister as existed before this issue.

JERUSALEM SAYS UNIFIL RETURNING ARMS TO TERRORISTS

TA252113Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] UN troops in southern Lebanon are returning to the terrorists arms and ammunition which they had confiscated from the terrorists. Military correspondent Roni Dani'el says that the UNIFIL headquarters has reached an agreement with the terrorists on this issue. In several cases UN troops sent north, beyond the Litani River, military hardware they confiscated from the terrorists. Likewise, they are enabling the terrorists to transfer concentrations of ammunition and arms which are in the area under UNIFIL control.

SON OF HEBRON NOTABLE ARRESTED; CHARGES UNKNOWN

TA251639Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] Security forces arrested Nur ad-Din al-Ja'abari of Hebron, eldest son of Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Ja'abari, former Hebron mayor. Today, further confirmation of those reports has been received from major news agencies. All reported from Amman on behalf of the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY that Nur ad-Din al-Ja'abari had been arrested last Thursday, on crossing the bridge from Jordan, on his way back to Hebron. Nur ad-Din al-Ja'abari is 50 years old. Before the 6-Day War he was in the service of the Jordanian Government. So far, no details have been released on the reason for the arrest.

INCREASED TERRORIST ACTIVITY FROM JORDAN EXPECTED

TA231726Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Jul 78 TA

[Text] The terrorists have increased their attempts to act from the Jordanian border and, according to authorized sources, attempts at terrorist activities are to be expected on that front.

The authorized sources further reported that the Fatah organization has increased its activity in recruiting foreign terrorists, especially from Europe. George Habash's organization is currently the main organization preparing for activity against Jewish and Israeli institutions abroad. It has taken Wadi' Haddad's place in this area. The sources in Israel confirmed that Haddad is indeed dead.

Military correspondent Roni Dani'el adds that it seems that members of the Japanese Red Army will be active against Jewish and Israeli targets in the near future.

ZIONIST FEDERATION WANTS TO FLESH OUT SETTLEMENTS

TA260636Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Jul 78 TA

[Text] The Settlement Department of the Zionist Federation has asked for the approval of a budget of 61 million Israeli pounds for the purpose of fleshing out the settlements in the Sinai approaches. The request was submitted yesterday to the head of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs, Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon. With the help of this sum the Settlement Department intends to prepare additional land and add means of production to the settlements.

The Herut head of the Settlement Department, Matityahu Drobles, has told our correspondent that the government's decision to flesh out the settlements in the Yamit area should be carried out expeditiously and care should be taken to reach the quota of 100 families for every settlement.

Correspondent Shim'on Schiffer also reports that Gush Emunim and the Settlement Department are making their best efforts to prevent the disintegration of an additional Gush Emunim settlement in Samaria. This is the settlement of Sanur that was set up a year ago in the framework of settlements established within IDF camps. There are nine families there today and they are divided into two hostile groups with each group demanding that the other leave. In order to prevent the disintegration of the settlement Gush Emunim has decided to send families from Allon More to Sanur until other families that want to settle in the place can be found. It has been reported by the Settlement Department that to date no jobs have been found for the settlers. The department has also had difficulty handling the settlement because of the quarrels among the settlers. Our correspondent notes that two Gush Emunim settlements, Yatir and Mizpe Yeriho, have already been dismantled.

COMMUNIST YOUTHS LEAVE FOR HAVANA FESTIVAL

TA251728Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jul 78 TA

[Text] About 50 Israeli youths, members of RAKAH and those affiliated with this movement, both Jews and Arabs, left for the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students in Havana, the capital of Cuba. The delegation is headed by the secretary of the Communist Youth Organization, Yehuda Goshansky. RAKAH's spokesman reported that a PLO delegation will also participate in this festival and the Israelis mean to meet with various delegations for talks.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI REPORTS ON GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

LD251806Y Kabul in Pushtu to Europe 1730 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD

[Address to the nation by Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, entitled: "A brief report of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan."--live]

[Summary] With regard to foreign affairs, most of the countries of the world and their friendly governments, with the USSR in first place, have extended official recognition to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's peace-seeking policy of nonalinement has been clearly described "at press interviews given by myself and my responsible colleagues in the past." The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's foreign policy has been conducted in accordance with the basic guidelines of the revolutionary duties of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

"The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has shown its willingness for realistic talks with Pakistan to solve the national issue of the Pushtun and Baluch people so that, by fulfilling the wishes of the Baluch and Pushtun brothers, all forms of tension arising out of this issue can be eliminated. We have expressed our desire to realize friendly relations with Iran and China and to explore the possibility of benefitting by their economic assistance. Our economic relations with Iraq are expanding. As a result of a government delegation's visit to Iraq, it was agreed that Iraq will extend an interest-free credit of (?$100) million to us. Similarly, as a result of the visit of an Afghan delegation to Libya, an agreement was signed on the extension of a loan of $3 million by Libya to Afghanistan."

Afghanistan has exchanged beneficial contacts with India, the GDR and other friendly countries. "Similarly, our meeting with President Carter's envoy in Kabul was very interesting."

"It ought to be pointed out that, in accordance with our policy, we have devoted our government to the service of the people. In this way, we have reformed our Foreign Ministry, like our other ministries, into a people's [khalqitob] ministry and have terminated the monopoly of the aristocrats in the ministry and have (?succeeded) in this. Many new elements have been appointed in that ministry which belong to the class of toilers."

In the area of defense, the People's Democratic Party [PDP] of Afghanistan has extended its influence in the army. "All the commanders of the large and small divisions of the people's armed forces have been appointed from among the khalqis or their supporters. Full individual and collective security prevails throughout the homeland, and khalqi comrades are in full control of the situation with the support of the prominent people of Afghanistan."

Measures have been taken to improve the army in various areas. The people of Afghanistan can rest assured that they now possess a popular army which is alert to the defense of their material and moral interests.

In the area of internal affairs, "on the basis of your government's policy guideline, a number of corrupt officials of the decadent Daud regime of the rank of governor, chief district commissioner, etc. have been dismissed and purged and khalqi elements have been appointed in their place."

Instructions have been given to the new officials to observe the true interests of the people and to avoid administrative abuse. The government is being led by a party which is progressive and inspired by the people's interests.

A planning committee has begun its work to prepare a new 5-year plan which will be completed in the shortest possible time. The Planning Ministry has held useful talks with the representatives and ambassadors of friendly countries in order to obtain their assistance in implementing development projects. The United Nations Development Program, the FAO, the Asian Bank and other international organizations have, on the basis of documented agreements, shown a willingness to assist us in the development projects.

The government has adopted extensive measures in the area of price control and profiteering. Agreements have been signed with the USSR, the United States and India on the purchase of wheat and other foodstuffs.

In the area of education, greater facilities have been provided in order to train and educate people and to send our youth abroad for higher education. For example, it is hoped that over (?2,700) of our youth will be sent abroad next year for higher studies. Efforts are being made to establish new universities in different parts of the country. Some 25,000 students who had completed middle school and were unable to pursue their studies at higher schools, thanks to the decadent regime of Daud, have been admitted into high schools throughout the country. We are contemplating fundamental reforms in the educational system of Afghanistan.

With regard to industrial activities, various projects have either been started or planned. These projects include sugar refineries, dye-processing, cement, paper manufacturing and chemical fertilizer plants in various parts of the country.

The government is involved in roadbuilding and has plans to launch hydroelectric projects in different parts of the country. A fresh look has been taken at public health services. Fundamental improvements as well as the provision of better equipment are planned. An agreement to this effect has been signed with the USSR.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has made efforts to expand its foreign trade and talks have been held with friendly countries for this purpose; contacts have been made with Japan and the PRC for greater exports of Afghan products.

A communications agreement has been signed with Japan. Information and cultural agreements have been signed with the USSR, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

In the area of agriculture, the Revolutionary Council's Decree No 6 has been issued in order to improve the situation of the farmers with little or no land.

With regard to the Ministry of Justice, great work has been accomplished with regard to clearing thousands of files and releasing large numbers of prisoners thanks to the lofty ideals of justice of the People's Democratic Party.

TARAKI RECEIVES SOVIET SCIENTIFIC DELEGATION

LDT202056Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Information Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, received a Soviet scientific delegation for a courtesy meeting at People's House at 1600 today. The delegation consisted of Islah [as heard], chairman of the Taczhik Academy of Sciences; Prof Dorenko [as heard], member of the Moscow University; and Prof Savchenko, member of the foreign branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The meeting was also attended by Aleksandr Mikhailovich Puzanov, Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

The Soviet scientific delegation arrived in Kabul this morning at the invitation of the Ministry of Education and Training. [as heard]

USSR STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER LEAVES KABUL

LDT231726Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 13 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Mr (?Rakovskiy), member of the USSR State Planning Committee, who came to Kabul a while ago for talks on Soviet cooperation in the preparation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's 5-year development plan, left for Moscow today. Mr (Fateh Mohammad Tabib), deputy minister of planning, and some officials of the Planning Ministry saw him off at Kabul International Airport.

During his stay in Kabul, Mr (?Rakovskiy) held talks with the pertinent officials of the Planning Ministry on the preparation of the Afghan 5-year economic development plan.

RADIO, TELEVISION DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR

LD260700Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 17 Jul 78 LD

[Text] (?Khial) Mohammad (?Tajawczi), deputy minister of radio and television, who had travelled to the USSR at the invitation of the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, this afternoon returned to the homeland. On his return to Kabul International Airport, he gave an interview to the correspondent of the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY. He said: The delegation from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], during its stay in the USSR, conducted talks pertaining to expanding cooperation between the two countries in the field of radio and television. The results of these talks were positive and fruitful. In the USSR, the Afghan delegation concluded agreements connected with the expansion of bilateral cooperation in the field of radio and television and also technical cooperation with the relevant authorities in the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and with the Soviet NOVOSTI NEWS AGENCY.

The deputy minister of radio and television expressed thanks for the hospitality and warm reception accorded to the highest delegation in the USSR.

The delegation from the DRA visited radio and television projects and installations in Moscow, Tashkent and Leningrad. 'Ibdolkhaliq (?Ta'min), head of Afghan film, and Mohammad Yusuf (?Daru), technical head of radio and television, who were members of the delegation, also returned to Kabul.

At Kabul International Airport high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Radio and Television and certain members of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul were present in order to welcome the delegation.

BANGLADESH

BURMESE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR BORDER DEMARCATION TALKS

BK251604Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] Talks on the demarcation of the land boundary between Bangladesh and Burma begin in Dacca tomorrow. A six-member Burmese delegation is already in the capital for the purpose.

The talks follow the agreement signed by the two countries earlier this month on the repatriation of the Burmese refugees from Bangladesh. The agreement on the repatriation of Burmese refugees scheduled to begin next month also provides for the continuation of a dialog on the demarcation of the border and other issues between the two countries.

BANGLADESH, SRV SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT IN HANOI

BK251606Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] Bangladesh and Vietnam are to exchange goods worth 40 million taka each way during the current financial year. The two countries have signed a general trade agreement and an annual commodity exchange protocol in Hanoi.

Under the agreement Bangladesh will export jute and jute products, paper and newsprint, pulp, rayon yarn, drugs and medicines and chemicals. The Vietnamese export list includes coal, rubber, pig iron, rice, edible oil and light industrial and engineering goods.

INDIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON VISIT BY LIBYA'S JALLUD

BK251500Y Delhi ISI in English 1432 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] At the invitation of Morarji Desai, prime minister of India, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of General Committee of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, paid a state visit to India from 17-25 July 1978, corresponding to 12-20 Shaban 1398 Hegira. The distinguished guest was accompanied by an official delegation and was given a warm and cordial reception in conformity with the depth of friendship and relationship existing between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and India. During the course of the visit, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and his delegation visited historic sites, places of cultural interest and industrial establishments in Delhi and in different parts of India to acquaint themselves with the cultural heritage of the people of India and its progress in the industrial, economic, scientific and technological fields.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the members of his delegation laid a wreath at Rajghat as a mark of respect to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

The distinguished visitor was received by the president of India, Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and Vice President of India B.D. Jatti. He had very useful, frank and detailed discussions with Morarji Desai, prime minister of India.

Official talks were also held between the two delegations led by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Morarji Desai from the Libyan and Indian sides respectively. In these official discussions, ministers and officials of the two governments participated. Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud also received and had discussions with Minister of External Affairs Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Minister of Industry George Fernandes, Minister of Railways Madhu Dandavate and Minister of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation Mohan Dharia.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud gave a detailed exposition of the remarkable accomplishments of the Libyan people in different spheres including the philosophy, the new thoughts, ideals and principles which emanated from the Great 1 September Revolution and the role played by the Libyan people in establishing the popular revolution and achieving direct democracy as well as people's authority and Jamahiriya. He further explained the leading role played by the Jamahiriya against colonialism, imperialism, reactionism, Zionism and racial discrimination. He also mentioned the positive and active role played by the Jamahiriya in establishing Arab unity, preserving African unity and solidarity against colonial interference, and their positive role in the nonaligned movement. The Indian prime minister noted with appreciation the role played by the Great 1 September Revolution in achieving the prosperity and social welfare of the Libyan people. He conveyed the goodwill and good wishes of the Indian people for the Arabs and expressed the view that Arab unity would contribute greatly towards their progress and prosperity.

Morarji Desai explained to Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud the initiatives taken by India towards the normalisation of relations with her neighbours and expressed India's desire for the establishment of a friendly atmosphere and also the conviction that understanding, cooperation and beneficial exchange amongst the countries of the Indian Subcontinent were not only in the interests of the countries concerned but would also contribute greatly towards peace, stability and security in the region. Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by India in this regard.

Morarji Desai also took the opportunity to explain the efforts made by his government in the fields of social and economic development of India and the future plans of his government for the upliftment and social wellbeing of the Indian people. Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud complimented the prime minister on these achievements and conveyed his best wishes for the prosperity and welfare of the Indian people.

The two parties reviewed the situation in the Arab region and expressed their conviction that peace in the region could be achieved only through withdrawal by Israel from all occupied Arab territories, and expressed their full support for the struggle of the Palestinian people for the restoration of their legitimate and inalienable national rights for a homeland--including the right of self-determination.

With regard to the situation in Africa, the two sides expressed their grave anxiety over areas in which tension continues to prevail in some regions of Africa. They expressed their belief that the solutions to African problems could be best found by the Africans themselves in the African context through peaceful negotiations and without foreign interference. Both delegations further expressed their total solidarity and willingness to render assistance to the oppressed peoples suffering under racial discrimination in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe in their struggle for national independence.

The two sides emphasized the continuing and lasting validity of nonalignment and expressed their satisfaction in regard to the development of this movement and its effective role in maintaining international peace and security. They reiterated their adherence to the principles of this movement and their willingness to jointly exert all efforts to support and strengthen it. The nonaligned movement had now become a great moral and political force against all evils confronting mankind, particularly colonialism, alien domination and apartheid. They further noted the progress in this respect since the Colombo summit in 1976 and the bureau meetings in New Delhi in 1977 and in Havana in May this year.

The two sides called for an early implementation by all concerned of the UN declaration on the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace from which great power rivalries and competition as well as military bases conceived in the context of such rivalries and competition be excluded.

The Libyan side expressed its sincere conviction that the Mediterranean should be converted into a zone of peace. The Indian side supported this concept.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Morarji Desai also exchanged views regarding the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament. They reviewed the recent special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament and expressed their grave concern at the increasing escalation in the arms race, including nuclear arms, and reiterated their belief that there was no alternative to mankind moving towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. They supported the convening of a world disarmament commission which they hoped would provide a machinery for future meaningful deliberations and negotiations on disarmament.

The two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the aims and objectives of the United Nations and expressed the conviction that progress made towards attainment of the goal of universality of membership in the United Nations has enabled nonaligned countries in pursuit of the objective of equitable international relations to play a greater role in the decision-making process on the basis of full respect for the sovereignty and equality of states.

While reviewing the international economic situation, the two heads of delegation noted a growing awareness and appreciation of the interdependence of the world community. The continuing, indeed increasing, disparity amongst nations wherein the developed nations, which accounted for a comparatively small minority of the world's population, continue to develop and prosper while the majority of mankind could not afford even the basic amenities and facilities of livelihood posed a danger to world peace and security. The establishment of more just and equitable international order was imperative and both sides therefore emphasized the urgent necessity for the recognition by the developed nations of the legitimate rights and aspirations of all the peoples of the world for economic and social progress.

The two heads of delegation also shared the view that economic development, self reliance and self sufficiency were essential ingredients of true independence and the best safeguard against foreign influence and interference. They therefore emphasized the need for greater cooperation amongst the developing countries bilaterally and multilaterally which would strengthen both national independence and also the nonaligned movement. There was now sufficient di ersity and complementarity within the developing countries of the nonaligned world which provided ample opportunity for meaningful exchanges, transfer of technology and cooperation. They stressed that every effort should be made amongst nonaligned countries to bring about the optimum utilisation of their capacities, capabilities, resources and technical abilities through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral cooperation.

Both in the above context and in the light of the ancient cultural and historical ties between the Jamahiriyah and India, the two leaders noted with satisfaction developments and exchanges between the two countries in political, economic, cultural, scientific, technological and other fields. The Libyan side have prepared a draft cultural agreement which will be examined, finalised and signed by the two sides very shortly. They reiterated their determination further to intensify and diversify these links and exchanges so that these could become the model of cooperation amongst two developing countries. The opportunity of the state visit was therefore taken for intensive discussions amongst members of the two delegations to review existing cooperation and to identify new areas and fields. A protocol on economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation and a trade agreement were signed during the visit.

While reviewing the existing cooperation, the Libyan side expressed satisfaction at the implementation of various projects which had been entrusted to Indian enterprises. The enlightened economic development plans of the Jamahiriyah on the one hand and the capabilities, skills and technology available in India on other provided excellent opportunities of multifaceted mutually beneficial cooperation. The most notable specific promising areas of cooperation were railways, construction of various kinds--housing, roads, airports, dams, bridges, etc.--establishment of industrial estates, the utilisation of consultancy services, establishment of joint ventures and joint marketing of products as a concrete and effective step in the direction of intensifying exchanges. It was agreed that a joint commission would be established at ministerial level which would meet periodically to review, monitor, guide and plan exchanges between the two countries.

In the field of energy, the two sides agreed that much more could be done to assist each other. It was agreed that further discussions would be held in this regard amongst experts of both sides. The participation of India in a programme of power generation maintenance and distribution had already proved to be beneficial to both sides. As a consequential and natural next step, an agreement was signed for the formation of an Indo-Libyan electricity company.

The Libyan side also expressed its appreciation of the services rendered and the role being played by technical and professional personnel from India who have been deputed to serve in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The prime minister of India offered to make available additional requirements as and when they are needed.

Both sides agreed on an exchange of technology in different fields for mutual benefit. The Indian side agreed to provide technological assistance to the extent possible for the Jamahiriyah's developmental programmes.

Both sides expressed the importance of maintaining regular contacts and exchanges at appropriate levels and forums.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud expressed his appreciation of and gratitude for the hospitality and warm reception extended to him personally and his accompanying delegation by the government and the people of India. He extended an invitation to Morarji Desai to visit the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

This was gratefully accepted and will be arranged subject to mutual convenience.

DESAI COMMENTS ON PROPAGANDA BALLOONS OVER INDIA

BK251142Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister told the Lok Sabha today the initiative for normalization of Sino-Indian relations had come from China and India is responding to this move. Mr Desai was intervening in the calling of attention motion on the reported Chinese balloons found in different parts of the country. The issue was raised by Mr Mukhtiar Singh Malik, Janata, and others.

Mr Desai said the balloons, which strayed into India with propaganda material in Chinese, came from Taiwan. He assured the house they do no harm to India. The members said Chinese helicopters were seen in certain parts of the country. Mr Desai said no Chinese helicopters have intruded into Indian territory and declared if there is aggression, it will be met properly and fully.

Earlier, the minister of state for home affairs, Mr Dhanik Lal Mandal, said the government has inquired into the cases of discovery of balloons in different parts of the country. From time to time balloons carrying propaganda material in Chinese have been found in some parts of the country. According to information available so far, these balloons do not have transmitters and are not intended for India. They drifted from their course, perhaps dur to cross currents of wind.

RAM ASSURES SECURITY CONSIDERED IN KARAKORAM HIGHWAY

BK260923Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, told the Rajya Sabha today that the construction of the Karakoram Highway by Pakistan and China has created a new situation. Intervening in a calling attention motion on the subject, he assured the house that the security of the country has been kept in view in the context of this new development. He reiterated the government's stand that the territorial integrity and the security of the country will always be kept uppermost in any discussion on the matter. He assured the house that the normalization of relations with China and Pakistan will never be at the cost of our national interests. He said that the external affairs minister, Mr Vajpayee, will discuss, among other things, the construction of the highway with Chinese leaders when he visits that country.

The calling attention motion was raised by Mr Sitaram Kesri, Congress-I, and Mr Shivchandra Jha, Janata. During the discussion, members said that the construction of the highway has violated the integrity and sovereignity of the country and has jeopardized the country's defense.

MANIPUR SITUATION 'RETURNING TO NORMAL'

BK250936Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The Manipur inspector general of police, Mr (Diglal), said the law and order situation in the state is fast returning to normal. He has denied a report that the army has been called to assist the civil administration. He said that though there is a clause under the Manipur Armed Forces Special Act to give such power to the army, no such step has so far been taken by the administration. He said that the governor, Mr L.P. Singh, is arriving in Imphal today on a routine visit, and it has nothing to do with the present situation. Meanwhile, the Manipur Rifles and the Central Reserve Police Force continued a scouring operation for the fourth day yesterday to crack down on those responsible for the recent stray acts of violence. Authoritative sources in Delhi said that the situation in Manipur is under control.

MIZO NATIONAL FRONT 'COLONEL' TO FACE TRIAL

BK251014Y Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Jul 78 p 5 BK

[Text] Imphal, July 16--Underground Mizo National Front (MNF) hardcore leader and self-styled 'Colonel' Biakvella was taken to Gauhati from Imphal on Tuesday [11 July] and lodged in Gaudhati jail to face trial under Section 121 of the IPC [Indian Penal Code] for waging war against the state, according to informed sources here. The Assam police have registered a case against him.

Biakvella was handed over to the Indian security forces by Burmese authorities on 30 June at the Indo-Burma border town of Moreh. The Manipur police arrested him under the Indian Passport Act.

According to reports, Biakvella, a loyal follower of former MNF Chief Laldenga, went to China with about 120 MNF men for training and to procure arms and ammunition. After 1 year, he returned to India with arms to step up anti-national activities. While returning from China, he left 40 of his men in Burma with Vanlal Nghakha Mizo, entered Manipur with about 80 men and then went to Bangladesh.

Biakvella had crossed over to Burma in January this year and reportedly stayed with a 26-year-old Christian evangelist, Miss Parchi Lushai. The Burmese security forces arrested him there and kept him in a Burmese jail for over 4 months before handing him over to the Indian security forces.

Meanwhile, about 300 underground Nagas led by self-styled "Gen T.H. Muivah" are trying to enter Nagaland and Manipur areas.

The rebel Nagas are presently camping at Lahe in Burma, opposite the Nagaland border.

Since the Indo-Burma border had been sealed by the Indian security forces, the rebel Nagas had no chance of entering Indian territory. All border check posts had been alerted.

PEACE CORPS ISSUE RAISED IN INDIA AGAIN

BK250922Y Delhi ISI in English 0844 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] In a letter to Mrs Lilian G. Carter, mother of the United States President, Morarji Desai said: "I realise how you feel about your work in our country and also about the Peace Corps. We are fully aware and appreciative of the work that the Peace Corps has done in India and elsewhere, but I am sure you will agree that in the present state of awakening in the country and the zeal for service which has been generated all round, we would like to do the work ourselves rather than secure manpower assistance from outside," reports PTI.

Desai added: "This does not mean that in spheres where the experience of new techniques is likely to be beneficial to us it would not be allowed to assist us in our work of transformation of conditions in the countryside."

Desai's letter to the mother of the American President was in reply to one sent by her on 1 July. Mrs Carter herself had worked in India as a Peace Corps volunteer. Thanking her for her letter, Desai said: "We all missed you when we were in Washington. I was told about your commitment and fully appreciated the reasons why we could not meet."

Inviting Mrs Carter to visit India, Desai said: "I do hope we shall meet some time, and I shall be looking forward to that opportunity. Whenever you feel like coming to India to visit us we would welcome your visit with the greatest pleasure. I would be very happy if you could be our guest."

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on 20 July by C.K. Chandrappa. A. whether the United States has any proposal to reintroduce the American Peace Corps in India; B. whether any talks were held between the two governments on this subject, and; C. if so, details thereof? Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs Somarendra Kundu said:

The Government of India was informally sounded on the possibility of reintroducing the American Peace Corps into India. The proposal is not under the active consideration of the government.

FLOOD CONTINUES TO CAUSE DAMAGE IN NORTHERN STATES

BK250933Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The northern states continue to reel under the fury of flood. About 9.5 million persons have so far been affected and 137 lives lost.

The death toll in Uttar Pradesh is reported to have gone up to 70, with more than 2.3 million persons affected by floods.

In Bihar, the situation around Darbhanga town continues to be critical. The situation in West Champaran and Sitamarhi has also deteriorated with the water levels of the rivers rising. There are also reports of outbreak of cholera from several areas.

In Assam, dikes and roads are facing erosion by the Brahmaputra and its tributaries.

Reports from Punjab said that incessant rain has badly affected normal life in Hoshiarour, Rupar and Jullundur Districts.

CORRESPONDENT COMMENTS ON NONALINED MOVEMENT

BK260140Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Spotlight program: "New Challenge to Nonalinement" by R. Constantine, All-India Radio special correspondent]

[Text] Only inveterate enemies of the nonalined will deny that nonalinement has turned out to be the most dynamic movement of its kind the world has ever seen--global, fearless and resolutely peace-loving. The new venture in international politics began with a broadcast over All-India Radio by Jawaharlal Nehru on the 7th of September 1946. He said:

We propose as far as possible to keep away from power politics and groups alined against one another which has led in the past to world wars and which may again lead to disaster on an even vaster scale. Nonalinement does not mean indifference to international affairs; it means an independent foreign policy.

This remains the core concept of nonalinement even today. It has caputured the imagination of newly-independent nations jealous of their freedom.

This is clear from the ever-growing number of the family of the nonalined. The first ever conference of nonalined countries in Belgrade, held in September 1961, was attended by 25 nations. The second in Cairo saw 47 countries attending, while in Lusaka the number went up to 53. The fourth conference at Algiers brought in 75 nations. By the time the fifth summit was held in Colombo, the number of nonalined countries had swelled to 85. Even those disqualified from joining the nonalined assembly by virtue of their being members of military pacts formed by the cold war blocs are today knocking at the doors of the nonalined to gain entrance. The presence of Pakistan as a guest at the ministerial conference now being held at Belgrade and the keen desire of Romania to move into the nonalined camp provide their own commentary on the need for and vitality and advantages of the movement.

Gone are the days when nonalinement was assessed according to its attitude toward the Soviet bloc or the U.S.-led Western bloc on any particular dispute. The West took time to realize that nonalined countries judge each issue according to its merit irrespective of the reaction it produces from either of the cold war blocs. There was neither pussyfooting nor surrender to bullying by those strutting about the world stage. This in time made the mutually opposing blocs realize that nonalinement after all has a place of respect in determining the cause of human development and maintaining world peace.

Nonalinement is not a political guide to further the national interests of member countries in international affairs. [words indistinct] is to further the corporate interests of the community of nonalined nations as a whole. With the realization of this basic fact, the orientation of the nonalined movement underwent radical changes. The most important of these changes is the development of the awareness that newly-independent countries should break loose from the economic domination of the industrially advanced countries, some of which were their former colonial overlords. It was this consciousness that compelled the United Nations to call the sixth and seventh special sessions of the General Assembly devoted exclusively to problems of development and international economic cooperation. The nudging came from the fourth summit conference of the nonalined at Algiers. This also helped the nonalined countries open their eyes to the [word indistinct] of the multinations operating in their territories.

As a direct result of this, the nonalined camp began looking inwards and discovered the enormous possibilities which economic cooperation among themselves held out. With this the nonalined nations opened a new chapter in their voyage on the unchartered waters of their economic future.

Taking India as an example gives a glimpse of what can be achieved through mutual cooperation among the nonalined. India's exports to nonalined countries, which stood at rupees 1.975 billion in 1960-61, rose to nearly rupees 9.52 billion in 1975-76. Our own imports from these countries registered a corresponding rise. Between 1960 and 1976, imports from nonalined nations rose from rupees 2.44 billion to rupees 9.44 billion. Up to May 1977, India had 345 joint ventures with 30 nonalined countries. These enterprises show a certain degree of self-reliance in nonalined nations. This attitude of self-reliance and mutual economic cooperation is based on the emphasis given to the idea by the Colombo summit which said: "It is time now to pool our resources and experience. The focus should be on the scope of functional cooperation."

In keeping with this call, various steps have been taken by member countries. One of the most important developments in this direction is the 3-day meeting of the scientific and technological cooperation group of the nonalined held in New Delhi last month. Such cooperation is expected to strengthen the collective bargaining power of the nonalined in international economic negotiations. India has offered to host the nonalined center for science and technology.

Another vital subject on which the nonalined countries have thrown down the guantlet is in the sphere of information. We, the nonalined countries, are being fed by news media of the advanced countries, and their coverage is intended to point news developments to suit the interests of the developed nations in which they are based. To defeat this, the nonalined camp has thrown up the idea of a nonalined news agencies pool. The first conference of information ministers of nonalined countries was held in New Delhi in July 1976. Serious concern was expressed at the inadequacy and imbalances which characterized the prevailing global information services. It was noted that more than three-fourths of the world population, living mostly in nonalined and developing countries, still do not have the 10 copies of daily newspapers, five radio sets, two TV sets and two cinema seats per 100 persons which is the standard set by the UNESCO. A nonalined news agencies pool is, therefore, a momentous venture which will correct the monstrous distortions now indulged in by news agencies of advanced nations.

While the credit side of the nonalined movement is quite impressive, there is also a debit column which should not be overlooked. This is the threat posed by the disunity among the nonalined nations. There is a situation in Indochina between Vietnam and Cambodia, and in Africa south of the Sahara there are any number of similar happenings. These are very dangerous developments which, if not checkmated, can lead to the nonalined camp pulling in different directions. Call it ideological pulls or jingoistic outbursts, it cannot be overemphasized that the nonalined movement will be respected and listened to in the comity of nations only if solidarity is maintained within their own ranks. This is all the more compelling because the nonalined movement itself has been a child of the keen desire of developing nations for world peace. It can render service as an agency of peace only if there is peace among themselves, or else the benefits will accrue to the old colonial masters.

Looking at the developments in central Africa, one feels that the days of Colonel Blimps and their African safaris are coming back. But the nonalined are perking up. Performance in this field is their current task.

SRI LANKA

PRIME MINISTER PRESENTS NEW CONSTITUTION BILL

BK251414Y Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 25 Jul 78 BK

[Text] The joint bill of a new constitution for the country entitled "The Constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka" was tabled in the National State Assembly this afternoon by the prime minister, Mr R. Premadasa. It will replace the present constitution adopted in May 1973.

The second reading on this bill will commence on the 2d of August. The voting on the second reading will take place on the 8th of next month.

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